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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, September 15, 2014



Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks during U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin's annual fundraising Steak Fry, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Indianola, Iowa.
(AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

Hillary Clinton in Iowa Stirs 2016 Speculation

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

INDIANOLA, Iowa (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton, making her return to Iowa for the first time since the 2008 presidential campaign, implored Democrats on Sunday to choose shared economic opportunity over "the guardians of gridlock" in an high-profile appearance that drove speculation about another White House bid in 2016

into overdrive. "Hello Iowa. I'm back!" Clinton declared as she took the podium at retiring Sen. Tom Harkin's annual steak fry fundraiser, a fixture on the political calendar in the home of the presidential caucuses that kickoff the state-by-state presidential nominating contests. Clinton joined her husband, former President Bill Clinton, in a tribute to Harkin that brought them

before more than 6,000 party activists who form the backbone of Iowa's presidential campaigns every four years. The former New York senator and first lady did not directly address a potential campaign but said she was "thinking about it" and joked that she was "here for the steak." She later said that "too many people only get excited about presidential campaigns. Look — I get

excited about presidential campaigns, too." But she said the upcoming November elections would be pivotal for the state's voters. "In just 50 days Iowans have a choice to make — a choice and a chance. A choice between the guardians of gridlock and the champions of shared opportunity and shared prosperity," she said, urging voters to elect Democratic candidates who would

"carry on Tom Harkin's legacy of fighting for families." Following a summertime book tour, Clinton was making her biggest campaign splash in 2014 so far, opening a season of fundraising and campaigning for Democrats who are trying to maintain a Senate majority during President Barack Obama's final two years.

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New fighting in eastern Ukraine city kills at least 6

CARLOTTA GALL

© 2014 New York Times

DONETSK, Ukraine - Heavy fighting broke out Sunday between Ukrainian and rebel forces on the north side of Donetsk, killing at least six people in one of the most serious clashes since the 10-day-old cease-fire came into force. The airport, where Ukrainian troops are almost surrounded, was on fire, billowing black smoke, and a house and a city market burned just off the main boulevard inside the city. "It's not a cease-fire, it's full-on fighting," a rebel fighter said. Tanks were out on the streets mid-afternoon, and pro-Russian rebel fighters raced reinforcements along the main boulevard in civilian cars toward their positions on the approaches to the airport. In a residential area just off the main boulevard,

hospital workers collected bodies from the sidewalks and homes hit hours earlier. They took at least six,

most of them elderly people who appeared to have been walking home from the market, and a rebel

policeman who had been trying to guide people to cover when he was hit. Artillery fire resounded for

hours through Saturday night and much of the day Sunday as Ukrainian forces at the airport and areas northwest of the city traded fire with the separatist forces that control the city and most of the surrounding territory. It was unclear who instigated the fighting or why, but the sound of rifle fire at the airport mid-afternoon indicated the two sides were engaged in close combat.

The two sides have shelled each other almost daily since the cease-fire agreement was signed Sept. 5, each blaming the other for violations, but generally the intense, large-scale battles of recent months have ceased. Sunday's action was, however, a marked escalation, suggesting that one side or the other was on the attack.

Rebel fighters who brought one of their wounded to the city hospital said fighting was underway in the contested village of Pesky, on the outskirts of the city, where both sides have a foothold, they said. Ukrainian troops had been strengthening their positions in the village in recent days and were firing on rebel positions, they said. Tanks and multiple rocket launchers also repeatedly sounded from rebel bases inside the city.

Representatives of the Ukrainian military could not immediately be reached for comment. Agence France-Presse quoted one official as blaming the fighting on the rebels, who he said had launched a broad offensive at the airport.

The shelling inside the city at midday shocked residents, most of whom have been venturing out shopping and fetching necessities since the cease-fire came into effect.

An elderly woman in white plastic sandals lay dead on the sidewalk covered by a military blanket, her arms outstretched and her walking stick beside her. Another woman was killed on a path leading toward the nearby school, which took a direct hit.□



Residents wave to Pro-Russian rebels atop an armored personal carrier during a parade in the town of Luhansk, eastern Ukraine, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014. Heavy fighting broke out Sunday between Ukrainian and rebel forces on the north side of Donetsk, killing at least six people in one of the most serious clashes since the 10-day-old cease-fire came into force.

(AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

Holland:

Tomato fight staged against Russian sanctions

TOBY STERLING

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Hundreds of young Dutch men and women turned Amsterdam's central Dam square into a blizzard of red goop on Sunday, as they pelted each other mercilessly with overripe tomatoes.

In theory, the event was set up as a protest against Russian sanctions blocking imports of European fresh produce. In practice, most participants turned out to experience the joy of smacking a loved one — or total stranger — with tomato pulp at close range. The idea was lifted from Spain's famed annual "La Tomatina" festival in Bunol. "It was hard in there. It was mean. But it was fun," said a beaming Lois Bloedjes, who came with her sister Sil. "Everything became one big pile of mush. There were people swimming in it on the ground."

Sil described the smell in the mush pit as "awful" and "somewhat like beer," but the tomatoes that actually got in her mouth — "the taste was actually



Participants hurl tomatoes in front of the Royal Palace turning Amsterdam's central Dam square into a red pulpy mess Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014. Entrepreneurs have seized upon Russia's boycott of European produce to set up a tomato-throwing fight. The idea is lifted from Spain's famed annual "La Tomatina" festival.

(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

not bad." Tickets to the one-hour fight cost 15 euros (\$18) each and around 1,000 were sold.

Organizer Joep Verbunt said proceeds will go to tomato growers hurt by the sanctions.

The Netherlands vies with Mexico as the world's larg-

est tomato exporter, and it sent \$100 million worth to Russia last year. Dutch farmers have been offered a subsidy to either dispose of excess crops or donate them to food banks.

Verbunt purchased 120,000 tomatoes labeled unfit for human consump-

tion for the event.

With music pumping from a podium, the participants — most of whom were wearing white before the fight started — counted down from 10 to zero. Then a shipping container full of the fruit was emptied into the arena.□

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Hillary Clinton in Iowa stirs 2016 speculation



Former Sec. of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, former President Bill Clinton and U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin work the grill during Harkin's annual fundraising Steak Fry, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Indianola, Iowa.

(AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

Continued from Front

The event also served as a farewell for Harkin, a liberal stalwart and former presidential candidate who is retiring after four decades in Congress.

Obama defeated Clinton in the state's leadoff presidential caucuses in January 2008 — Clinton finished third behind the future president and then-North Carolina Sen. John Edwards — and the visit marked the former secretary of state's first appearance in Iowa since the campaign.

The Clintons' arrival offered the possibility of a fresh start for Clinton, whose presidential campaign stumbled in the months leading to the caucuses.

Anti-war activists opposed her vote to authorize the Iraq war in 2002 and coalesced around Obama, who had opposed the war as an Illinois state senator. Clinton was often insulated by a large entourage in a state where face-to-face politics has long been a campaign hallmark.

Clinton, who has conferred with Iowa Democrats in

recent days, would enter a presidential campaign with a large advantage over potential rivals. Early polls have shown her leading other Democrats by wide margins, including Vice President Joe Biden and Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley.

Biden is traveling to Des Moines next week and has not closed the possibility of another campaign while O'Malley has made several visits to the state and dispatched staffers to Iowa this fall.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who is considering a presidential campaign, said in an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press," that there was "profound anger at the greed on Wall Street" and at the nation's political establishment.

Sanders said "the issue is not Hillary" but the decline in middle-class standard of living and the gap between rich and poor. "The American people want change," he said.

Clinton has said she expects to decide on another presidential campaign early next year. □

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Police say trooper killed in Pennsylvania ambush

MICHAEL RUBINKAM

Associated Press

BLOOMING GROVE, Pennsylv. (AP) — A late-night ambush outside a state police barracks in Pennsylvania's rural north-eastern corner left one trooper dead and another critically wounded, and authorities scoured the densely wooded countryside and beyond on Saturday looking for the shooter or shooters.

State Police Commissioner Frank Noonan said a "very dangerous, armed criminal" eluded quick capture. "This attack was an ambush. Our troopers were ... shot without warning and really had no chance to defend themselves," Noonan told reporters Saturday afternoon. "It's a cowardly attack. It's an attack upon all of us in society." The dead lawman was identified as Cpl. Bryon Dickson, a seven-year veteran who had transferred to the region from Philadelphia several months ago. Trooper Alex Douglass underwent surgery and was in critical but stable condition, Noonan said.

He provided few details on the shooting but said the attack was directed at state police. Law enforcement installations throughout eastern Pennsylvania were put on high alert. "It has touched us to the core that such a thing could happen," Noonan said. The slain trooper was married with two young sons. He was described by friends as devoted to work and family.

"They were a committed couple," Melissa Contorno, a friend of Dickson's wife, told The (Scranton) Times-Tribune. "They were raising a beautiful young family. . It's not fair."

Police interviewed a man they called a "person of interest," but Noonan said authorities are talking to hundreds of people as part of the investigation. He stressed the man is not a suspect.

The troopers were ambushed around 10:50 p.m. Friday as one of them was leaving the barracks



A member of the Pennsylvania State Trooper's Tactical Response Unit, walks along Route 402 near the scene where a Pennsylvania State Trooper was killed and another trooper was injured during a shooting over the weekend at the Pennsylvania State Police barracks in Blooming Grove Township, Pa.

(AP Photo/Butch Comegys)

in Blooming Grove, Pike County, and another was arriving. The barracks is in a wooded area, surrounded by state game lands.

Law enforcement officials from across the region, including New York and New Jersey, descended on the Pocono Mountains to help with the search on foot and by helicopter.

"There has been exhaustive search conducted by hundreds of members of law enforcement," said Lt. Colonel George Bivens. "We have canvassed the wooded areas, neighborhoods. We are convinced this individual is no longer in that immediate area."

Several roads around the barracks, including parts of Interstate 84, were closed Saturday. Blooming Grove is a township of about 4,000 people about 35 miles (56 kilometers) east of Scranton.

Trooper Adam Reed, a state police spokesman, said the barracks covers most of Pike County, which runs along the Delaware River and borders New Jersey and New York.

Gov. Tom Corbett ordered all Pennsylvania flags at state facilities to fly at half-mast and said he was praying for the slain trooper's family as well as the injured colleague.

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Detroit cop faces 2nd trial in 7-year-old's death

ED WHITE

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A member of an elite Detroit police unit is set to stand trial again for killing a 7-year-old girl during a 2010 raid on her house that was captured on video by a reality TV crew.

Nobody alleges that Officer Joseph Weekley intended to kill Aiyana Stanley-Jones, who had been sleeping on a couch near the front door when officers burst through around midnight in search of a murder suspect. But prosecutors charged him with involuntary manslaughter because they believe he handled his submachine gun recklessly, causing the girl's death.

Jury selection starts Mon-

day in Wayne County court, 15 months after Weekley's first trial ended with jurors unable to agree on a verdict.

Weekley was a member of Detroit's Special Response Team, which was sent to an east side neighborhood to capture a suspect in the killing of a teenager outside a convenience store. Police threw a stun grenade through a window, emitting smoke, bright light and vibrations to confuse anyone inside. Weekley was first through the door, with a shield in one hand and a gun in the other. He claims he accidentally pulled the trigger when Aiyana's grandmother, Mertilla Jones, grabbed his gun. She denies that she interfered in any way.



Dominika Stanley, left, the mother of 7-year-old Aiyana Jones sits next to Aiyana's father Charles Jones in attorney Geoffrey Fieger's office in Southfield, Mich. A judge won't delay the trial of a Detroit police officer who accidentally killed 7-year-old Aiyana Jones during a raid, despite his attorney's concerns that a "media frenzy" following a police shooting in Missouri could harm his client's right to an impartial jury. Detroit Officer Joseph Weekley is charged with involuntary manslaughter. Wayne County Judge Cynthia Hathaway said Weekley's trial will start Monday, Sept. 15, 2014 as planned. This is Weekley's second trial. The first ended without a verdict in June 2013. (AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)

The raid was recorded for a police reality TV show, "The First 48," but there was no footage from inside the house. The target, Chauncey Owens, eventually was arrested and convicted of killing a 17-year-old boy. During Weekley's first trial, a fellow officer, Shawn Stallard, testified that he didn't see anyone struggle with Weekley. He said Detroit police are trained to push away anyone who tries to grab an officer's gun or to

move the weapon in a "J" shape to keep control of it. Weekley told jurors: "I just feel devastated and depressed. I'll never be the same, no." On the third day of deliberations, loud voices could be heard coming from the jury room. Jurors later told the judge they couldn't reach a verdict. Spokeswoman Maria Miller said the prosecutor's office still believes it has a strong case, which is why it decid-

ed to put Weekley on trial again.

Mark Diaz, union president of the Detroit Police Officers Association, said he was disappointed by the decision.

"I understand there is a certain part of the public that is crying foul on this. But knowing what we know, there was no malicious intent. ... He went in there to protect the citizens of Detroit from a man wanted for murder," Diaz said.

Riders briefly stuck at amusement park

JACKSON TOWNSHIP, New Jersey (AP) — A power outage at a New Jersey amusement park left some patrons briefly stuck on rides, but no injuries were reported.

Officials say a faulty transformer caused Sunday's outage at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson Township.

Park spokeswoman Kait-

lyn Turi says all guests who were on rides when the outage happened were safely unloaded within 20 minutes. She said all rides at the park are designed with computer systems that provide safe locations for rides to stop, and ride operators are trained to help guests safely disembark.

Power was restored to portions of the park a short

time after, and following a safety check some rides resumed normal operations. The specific rides affected by the outage were not immediately disclosed.

In August, the Nitro roller coaster at Great Adventure lost power partway up its 233-foot (71-meter) peak, forcing riders to walk down along the tracks to the ground.



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Prosecutors target credit card thieves overseas



Assistant Attorney General Leslie Caldwell speaks at the Justice Department's Health Care Fraud Training Conference at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) headquarters in Washington. Working to combat an increasingly lucrative crime that crosses geographic boundaries, Justice Department officials are pressing for a new law to help them prosecute criminals overseas who traffic in stolen credit cards.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Criminals from around the world buy and sell stolen credit card information with ease in today's digital age. But if they commit their crime entirely outside the United States, they may be beyond the reach of federal prosecutors.

Justice Department officials are seeking a tougher law to combat overseas credit card trafficking, an increasingly lucrative crime that crosses national boundaries.

Authorities say the current statute is too weak because it allows people in other countries to avoid prosecution if they stay outside the United States when buying and selling the data and don't pass their illicit business through the U.S. The Justice Department is asking Congress to amend the law to make it illegal for an international criminal to possess, buy or sell a stolen credit card issued by a U.S.

bank no matter where in the world the transaction occurs.

Though prosecutors do have existing tools and have brought international cybertheft cases in the past year, the Justice Department says a new law is needed at a time when criminals operating largely in Eastern Europe are able to gobble up millions of stolen credit card numbers and commit widespread fraud in a matter of mouse clicks. Companies and banks, too, have been stung by faraway hackers who have siphoned away personal information.

"It's a very simple fix, and it makes perfect sense to fix it," Assistant Attorney General Leslie Caldwell, the Justice Department's criminal division chief, said in an interview. "This is a huge law enforcement issue when it's our financial institutions and our citizens' credit card data that's being stolen ... by overseas people who never set foot

in the United States."

The problem, though certainly not new, has evolved to the point that "a lot of these folks who are trafficking in these devices are overseas," Caldwell said.

The issue is more than hypothetical, Caldwell told a Senate subcommittee, as law enforcement agencies have identified criminals in other nations who are selling large quantities of stolen credit cards without passing the business through the U.S.

Officials say the crime is facilitated by online marketplaces where participants, cloaked in the anonymity of the Internet and trading data with the ease of eBay commodities, advertise, buy and sell credit

card information stolen in data breaches. The credit cards are valued at different prices, generally depending on the balance, and swapped on Web forums that often operate in foreign languages and are primarily hosted in non-U.S. countries. The cards are sometimes used to purchase valuable goods and sometimes converted into gift cards, Caldwell said. Some schemes dispatch large bands of criminals to make withdrawals from automated teller machines.

"It's a well built-up and sophisticated marketplace," said Chris Wysopal, a computer security expert and chief technology officer of the software-security firm Veracode.







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US Officials:

Arab Nations offer to conduct airstrikes against Islamic State

MICHAEL R. GORDON

© 2014 New York Times

PARIS - Several Arab countries have offered to carry out airstrikes against militants from the Islamic State, senior State Department officials said Sunday.

The offer was disclosed by U.S. officials traveling with Secretary of State John Kerry, who is approaching the end of a weeklong trip that was intended to mobilize international support for the campaign against the group.

"There have been offers both to Centcom and to the Iraqis of Arab countries taking more aggressive kinetic action," said one of the officials, who used the acronym for the U.S. Central Command, which oversees military operations in the Middle East.

Kerry, who is in Paris to attend an international conference hosted by France on Monday on providing aid to the new Iraqi government, has already visited Baghdad; Amman, Jordan; Jidda, Saudi Arabia; Ankara, Turkey; and Cairo.

During Kerry's stop in Jidda on Thursday, 10 Arab countries joined the United States in issuing a communiqué that endorsed efforts to confront and ultimately "destroy" the Islamic State, including military action to which nations would contribute "as appropriate."

U.S. officials said the communiqué should be interpreted as meaning that some, but not all, of the 10 Arab countries would play a role in the military effort. The United States has a broad definition of what it would mean to contribute

to the military campaign.

"Providing arms could be contributing to the military campaign," said a second State Department official.

"Any sort of training activity would be contributing to the military campaign."

Still, while the United States would clearly have the

in Iraq, senior Iraqi officials said.

"We need aerial support from our allies," Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi of Iraq said during a joint news conference with Hollande on Friday.

"The French president promised me today that

a refueling plane.

The Australian aircraft will operate from the United Arab Emirates.

Australia is also sending 200 troops, including commandos, to serve as advisers to Iraqi soldiers and the Kurdish peshmerga forces.

The State Department offi-

dropping bombs, such as flying arms to Irbil in the Kurdistan region or Baghdad, conducting reconnaissance flights or providing logistical support and refueling.

The officials said the Arab offers were under discussion.



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry speaks during a joint press conference with Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukri in Cairo, Egypt. Several Arab countries have offered to carry out airstrikes against militants from the Islamic State, senior State Department officials said Sunday.

(AP Photo/Brendan Smialowski, Pool)

dominant role in an air campaign to roll back the Islamic State's gains in Iraq, it is clear that other nations may also participate.

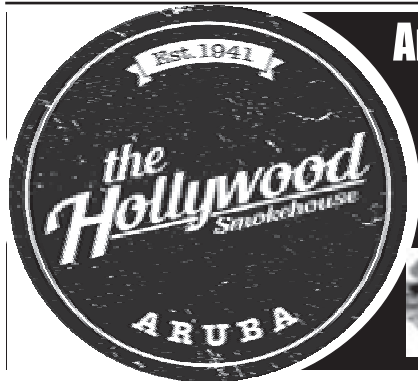
President François Hollande of France told Iraqi officials that his country would be willing to carry out airstrikes against the Islamic State

France will participate in this effort, hitting the positions of the terrorists in Iraq." Prime Minister Tony Abbott of Australia has also said that his country will join the air campaign and is sending as many as eight FA-18 attack planes, as well as an early warning aircraft and

officials, who asked not to be identified under the agency's protocol for briefing reporters, did not say which Arab nations had offered to carry out airstrikes. There are other ways Arab nations could participate in an air campaign against the Islamic State without

"I don't want to leave you with the impression that these Arab members haven't offered to do airstrikes, because several of them have," the first State Department official said.

Continued on page 27



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Britain mourns slain hostage; another under threat

LONDON (AP) — Now it's Britain's turn to mourn. British aid worker David Haines has been beheaded — like two American journalists before him — and the Islamic State group is threatening to kill a fourth captive.

A grisly video released by the group showing Haines' body both mocks the West and raises the pressure on Western leaders. It concludes with a death threat against British hostage Alan Henning, shown in the same kind of orange jumpsuit the other three were wearing when they were killed.

Prime Minister David Cameron praised the 44-year-old Haines on Sunday as a British hero, and his family asked that he be remembered for devoting his life to helping civilians caught in deadly conflicts.

Haines is the third Westerner beheaded in recent weeks by the Islamic State group, which has seized large parts of Syria and Iraq and, according to Cameron, poses a "massive" threat to the rest of the Middle East.

"They are killing and slaughtering thousands of people — Christians, Muslims, minorities across Iraq and Syria," Cameron said after an emergency meeting with military and security chiefs.

"They boast of their brutality. They claim to do this in the name of Islam. That is nonsense. Islam is a religion of peace. They are not Muslims, they are monsters," he said.

Cameron said the group is planning attacks against Britain and the rest of Europe, and that Britain has to step up its counterterrorism efforts.

Britain will support U.S. military efforts against the Is-

lamic State group by using British forces to help with logistics and intelligence gathering, he said, but will

condemn the Islamic State group. The man with the knife then appears and condemns Britain's sup-

life. The Islamic State group's videos have all followed a similar script, with the

an orange jumpsuit. They are in a desert landscape with no obvious identifying landmarks.

Each has also included a threat against another captive briefly shown on camera.

Britain's Foreign Office initially asked the press not to identify Henning as the captive shown on camera, but it dropped this request Sunday with his family's approval. The family also distributed a photo of Henning.

The death of Haines expands the group's on-camera victims beyond journalists to include international aid workers.

His brother, Mike Haines, said David approached his humanitarian work with boundless enthusiasm.

"He helped whoever needed help, regardless of race, creed or religion," he said.

David Haines was kidnapped in Syria in March 2013 while working for the French aid group Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development, or ACTED, to help victims of the fighting. □



Britain's Prime Minister, David Cameron, makes a statement to the media on the killing of British aid worker David Haines in Downing Street, central London, Sunday Sept. 14, 2014. In an emotional statement after chairing a meeting of the Government's Cobra emergency committee to discuss the killing, he hailed David Haines as a "British hero" and vowed to "hunt down those responsible and bring them to justice no matter how long it takes."

(AP Photo/PA, John Stillwell)

not send ground troops. Cameron also raised the prospect that the black-clad, knife wielding Islamic State extremist on the video — who speaks with an East London accent — may in fact be a British man who has joined the terrorists.

"People across this country will have been sickened by the fact it could have been a British citizen — a British citizen who carried out this unspeakable act," he said.

The tall, masked figure in the video appears to be the same man who appeared in earlier videos announcing the killings of Americans James Foley and Steven Sotloff.

The video opens with footage of Cameron con-

port of U.S. action against the group and says the captive must pay with his

extremist dressed in black — only his eyes visible — and the victim dressed in

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ARUBA WINE TDINE

US man in North Korea given 6 years of hard labor

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korea's Supreme Court on Sunday sentenced a 24-year-old American man to six years of hard labor for entering the country illegally to commit espionage.

At a trial that lasted about 90 minutes, the court said Matthew Miller, of Bakersfield, California, tore up his tourist visa at Pyongyang's airport upon arrival on April 10 and admitted to having the "wild ambition" of experiencing prison life so that he could secretly investigate North Korea's human rights situation.

Miller, who looked thin and pale at the trial and was dressed completely in black, is one of three Americans being held in North Korea.

Showing no emotion throughout the proceedings, Miller waived the right to a lawyer and was handcuffed before being led from the courtroom after his sentencing. The court, comprising a chief judge flanked by two "people's assessors," ruled it would

not hear any appeals to its decision.

Earlier, it had been believed that Miller had sought asylum when he entered North Korea. During the trial, however, the prosecution argued that was

the U.S. military in South Korea on his iPad and iPod.

Miller was charged under Article 64 of the North Korean criminal code, which is for espionage and can carry a sentence of five to 10 years, though harsher

allowed to attend the trial. A trial is expected soon for one of the other Americans being held, Jeffrey Fowle, who entered the North as a tourist and was arrested in May for leaving a Bible at a sailor's club in the city of

serving out a 15-year sentence for alleged "hostile acts."

All three have appealed to the U.S. government to send a senior statesman to Pyongyang to intervene on their behalf.

During a brief interview with The Associated Press in Pyongyang last week, Miller said he had written a letter to President Barack Obama but had not received a reply.

Following Sunday's court verdict, the U.S. State Department urged North Korea to release Miller, as well as Bae and Fowle.

"Now that Mr. Miller has gone through a legal process, we urge the DPRK to grant him amnesty and immediate release," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement, using North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Fowle, a 56-year-old equipment operator for the city of Moraine, Ohio, said his wife, a hairstylist from Russia, made a written appeal on his behalf to Russian President Vladimir Putin. He said the Russian government responded that it was watching the situation. The U.S. has repeatedly offered to send its envoy for North Korean human rights issues, Robert King, to Pyongyang to seek the freedom of the detainees, but without success.

Former President Bill Clinton came in 2009 to free a couple of jailed journalists. Jimmy Carter made the trip in 2010 to secure the release of Aijalon Gomes, who had been sentenced to eight years of hard labor for illegally crossing into the country to do missionary work.



Matthew Miller, a U.S. citizen, sits on the dock at the Supreme Court during his trial in Pyongyang, North Korea, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014. North Korea's Supreme Court on Sunday sentenced Miller to six years of hard labor for entering the country illegally and trying to commit espionage.

(AP Photo/Kim Kwang Hyon)

a ruse and that Miller also falsely claimed to have secret information about

punishments can be given for more serious cases.

The Associated Press was

Chongjin. The third American, Korean-American missionary Kenneth Bae, is

Rights group calls for probe into Iraqi airstrike

SINAN SALAHEDDIN

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — An international rights group called Sunday for an investigation into an Iraqi airstrike on a school housing displaced families that killed 31 civilians, including 24 children, a day after the country's new prime minister ordered the army to stop shelling militant-held populated areas to minimize civilian casualties. New York-based Human Rights Watch said in a statement that the Sept. 1 airstrike took place in the town of al-Alam, just outside the northern city of

Tikrit, which was captured by the Islamic State extremist group in June. The statement said 41 other people were wounded.

Three survivors, interviewed by HRW by phone, said the school sheltered about 70 people from the extended Jurefat family, who had been there for two months after fleeing Tikrit. They said that there were no militants or military equipment in or near the school at the time of the attack.

Iraqi officials were not immediately available for comment, but the report cited the Iraqi government

as saying that the pilot had targeted a car driving near the school that was thought to be transporting fighters and explosives, causing an explosion that was "far larger than normal."

HRW special adviser Fred Abrahams said the Islamic State group "is incredibly brutal, but that's no excuse for what the Iraqi government is doing." He called on Iraq's allies in the fight against the militants "to put pressure on Baghdad to stop this kind of violence." On Saturday, Iraq's newly-appointed Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi ordered

the security forces to stop shelling populated areas held by militants in order to spare the lives of "innocent victims" as the armed forces struggle to retake cities and towns seized by the Islamic State group since early this year.

He accused the militants of using civilians as human shields to stop the advance of Iraqi security forces. But he vowed to continue military operations against the al-Qaida breakaway group, which seized much of northern and western Iraq in an unprecedented June offensive.



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Anti-euro party strong in German state holds vote

GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A new party that has expanded its anti-euro stance into a broader appeal to protest voters won seats in two more German state legislatures Sunday, building on recent momentum and intensifying a headache for established parties.

The Alternative for Germany, or AfD, party won 10.6 percent of the vote in eastern Thuringia state and 12.2 percent in Brandenburg, which surrounds Berlin.

"We're glad that people have voted for a political renewal in our country," leader Bernd Lucke said.

AfD fell narrowly short of the 5 percent support needed to enter Germany's national parliament last year. Since then, it has won seats in the European Parliament and, two weeks ago, its first seats in a state parliament in eastern Saxony.

Other parties say they won't govern with AfD, which advocates scrapping the euro in its current form. It has developed a socially conservative image, but also has appealed to protest voters of all shades with tough talk on crime and immigration. Sunday's result left unclear who would govern Thuringia. The opposition Left Party, which has ex-communist roots, hoped to install its first state governor and end the 24-year reign over the region of Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives.

Merkel's Christian Democrats were the strongest party, but with 33.5 percent support well short of a majority.

Sweden shifts to left in parliamentary election

KARL RITTER
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Sweden's Social Democrats were poised to return to power after a left-leaning

that also saw strong gains by an anti-immigration party.

With more than 99 percent of districts counted, the Social Democrat-led

coalition got 39.3 percent, official preliminary results showed.

The anti-immigration Sweden Democrats party more than doubled its support to

The result marks the end of an eight-year era of tax cuts and pro-market policies under Fredrik Reinfeldt, who said he would resign both as prime minister and leader of the conservative party. Many Swedes worried that his tax cuts have undermined the country's famed welfare system.

"There's something that is falling apart in Sweden," Social Democrat leader Stefan Lofven said cheering supporters at a rally in Stockholm after most of the votes had been counted. "Tonight Sweden has answered that we need change."

The 57-year-old former union leader is expected to enter into coalition talks with the Social Democrats' partner in the Red-Green bloc, the environmentalist Green Party, and potentially also the ex-communist Left Party.

But unless he's able to recruit one of the center-right parties in Reinfeldt's Alliance, he could face a situation where the Sweden Democrats and the Alliance jointly strike down key proposals.



Sweden Democrats celebrate during Sweden's election night in Stockholm, Sweden, Sunday Sept. 14, 2014. An exit poll showed the Social Democratic-led bloc getting 44.8 percent of the votes, compared to 39.7 percent for the center-right alliance that has been in power for the past eight years.

(AP Photo/Anders Wiklund)

bloc defeated the center-right government in a parliamentary election Sunday

Red-Green bloc had 43.7 percent of the votes Sunday while the governing

13 percent, leaving it with the balance of power in Parliament.

Typhoon slams into northeastern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

— A fast-moving typhoon slammed into the northeastern Philippines on Sunday, sparking warnings of possible landslides, flash floods and storm surges.

Typhoon Kalmaegi, with sustained winds of 130 kilometers per hour (81 miles per hour) and gusts of 160 kph (99 mph), blew into the boundary of Cagayan and Isabela provinces with no immediate reports of casualties.

It was forecast to barrel northwestward through the mountainous north at 22

kph (14 mph) before blowing out Tuesday into the South China Sea, government forecasters said.

Residents in at least nine northern provinces, which have been drenched by days of rains, were warned to take precautions and stay away from already soggy mountainsides and swollen rivers. Classes have been suspended in cities and provinces that are expected to be swamped by floodwaters overnight or on Monday.

The storm has been blamed for enhancing monsoon

winds that whipped up big waves and caused a stalled ferry to sink in the central Philippines late Saturday. Cargo and passenger ships plucked at least 110 survivors from the rough waters and recovered three bodies after the ferry sank.

Kalmaegi, the Korean word for seagull, is the 12th weather disturbance to batter the Philippines this year.

The calamity-prone archipelago is lashed by about 20 storms and typhoons every year, each requiring

major disaster-mitigation preparations.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development said it has pre-positioned 3,000 family food packs in northern communities that may be isolated by the storm.

About 100,000 other such food packs have been prepared in case of wider typhoon-wrought calamity. Army and police forces, backed by rubber boats, trucks and air force helicopters, have been put on standby for possible search and rescue operations.

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In Jamaica, Rastas ready for pot decriminalization

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Taking a deep draw on a pipe that glows with burning marijuana, reggae luminary Bunny Wailer gives a satisfied grin through a haze of aromatic smoke in his concrete yard painted in the red, green, gold and black colors identified with his Rastafarian faith.

These days, the baritone singer from the legendary Wailers, the group he formed in 1963 with late superstars Bob Marley and Peter Tosh, has reason to feel good. There is unprecedented traction building in Jamaica to decriminalize pot, meaning the dreadlocked Wailer and other adherents of Rastafari — a homegrown spiritual movement that considers the drug divine — may soon be able to smoke without fear of arrest.

"Rastas have treated marijuana as something legal all along, even though we have been sent to prison for using the herb in our prayer. But this is the time for all these pressures to stop. The world is catching up now," the 67-year-old three-time Grammy winner said at his modest Kingston home.

Jamaica is known internationally for its marijuana. The hardy plant grows easily on the tropical Caribbean island, where its use is culturally entrenched despite being legally banned for 100 years. Cultivation is kept hidden, with small patches tucked into mountainsides, in swamps and between rows of other crops. Wailer, himself, was convicted of possession in 1967 and did more than a year of hard labor.

Previous moves to decriminalize the drug failed to advance mainly because officials feared they would

violate international treaties and bring sanctions from Washington. But now, with a number of U.S. states relaxing their marijuana laws — Colorado and Washington even allow recreational use — Jamaica is rethinking its position. Justice Minister Mark Golding says Jamaica's Cabinet has approved a plan to decriminalize marijuana, including for religious purposes, and legislators are expected to authorize it

boring under its latest loan program with the International Monetary Fund.

"Ganja," as marijuana is known locally, has a long history on the island. It was introduced to Jamaica in the 19th century by Indian indentured servants and it gained popularity as a medicinal herb. Use spread among the poor in the 1930s with the founding of Rastafari, a spiritual movement that melds Old Testament teachings and

ranges once had images of dreadlocked Rastas as targets. The spiritual movement attracts only a small percentage of the country's mostly Christian population of 2.7 million.

It wasn't until the 1970s, when the Wailers and other Rasta musicians popularized the Rastafarian culture among better-off Jamaicans, that marijuana's popularity began to filter through the island's rigid class structure and gain a



Legalization advocate and reggae legend Bunny Wailer smokes a pipe stuffed with marijuana during a "reasoning" session in a yard in Kingston, Jamaica, decorated with Rastafarian colors and images of former Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie. (AP Photo/David McFadden)

before the end of the year. Freedom to use marijuana for religious worship is one of various amendments to Jamaica's Dangerous Drugs Act supported by Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller's administration. Her ministers also have proposed unclogging courts by decriminalizing small amounts of weed for personal use, making possession of 2 ounces or less a ticketable offense. The main hope is that a regulated medical marijuana and scientific research sector could help draw investments to the cash-strapped island, which is la-

Pan-Africanism and whose followers worship the late Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie.

Rasta adherents say use of the "holy herb" induces a meditative state that brings them closer to the divine. The faithful smoke it as a sacrament in chalice pipes or cigarettes called "spliffs," add it to vegetarian stews, and place it in fires as a burnt offering.

For years, Rastafarians were treated as second-class citizens and looked down upon by many Jamaicans as oddball, even dangerous drug-addled cultists. Police shooting

wider acceptance. Marley's worldwide popularity has made him Jamaica's most famous and revered son.

While Rastafari followers tend to disdain government initiatives, for many, Jamaica's decriminalization plans signal a crucial victory after decades of struggle.

The momentum building "presents a major step forward for the recognition of the religious rights and expression of Rastafari," said Anta Anthony Merritt, a Rastafarian priest who is a faculty member at San Diego State University. □

CARIBBEAN

Guyana warns of increase in chikungunya

GEORGETOWN, Guyana

(AP) — Officials in the South American country of Guyana say they are stepping up efforts to fight the spread of the chikungunya virus amid an increase in cases. Chief Medical Officer Shamdeo Persaud said this weekend that the health ministry is spraying the capital of Georgetown and other populated areas as he urged people to destroy mosquito-breeding grounds. Guyana has registered more than 1,000 cases, with several clinics reporting about 60 new cases a day. Across the Caribbean, the Pan American Health Organization has recorded nearly 700,000 suspected and confirmed cases as of Sept. 12. The mosquito-borne virus causes fever and severe joint pain, but is rarely fatal. □

Cayman Islands readying for trial of ex-premier

GEORGE TOWN, Cayman Is-

lands (AP) — A judge in the Cayman Islands has sworn in a seven-member jury as the government prepares for a corruption trial against a former premier who has been the islands' longest serving politician. McKeever Bush faces 11 criminal charges in a trial that is scheduled to start on Monday. He lost a no-confidence vote in December 2012 and was ousted as premier after police arrested him on suspicion of misusing a government credit card, abuse of office and other charges. Bush remains the opposition leader of the United Democratic Party. He has denied the charges and said they are politically motivated. □



A Feast for the Senses:

Discover Kitchen Table at Blue Residences!



PALM BEACH - Aruban celebrity Chef Urvin Croes has brought his deft touch to a delightful new eatery located within Blue Residences: Kitchen Table by White. Renowned for his innovative elevation of native island cuisine into gourmet art, he recently opened his intimate and exhilarating dining concept within the newly opened condo/resort complex on the border of Eagle and Palm Beach to rave reviews.

Chef Urvin, who was the first to win Aruba's "Iron Chef Contest," competing against culinary masters from Europe, welcomes only 18 guests nightly along with his accomplished Sous

Chef Ludovico and his charming Manager and Wine Sommelier Carlito.



Ably assisted by a staff of passionate young graduates of Aruba's highly-re-

spected EPI Culinary Institute, they deliver to patrons an epicurean adventure

with a uniquely Caribbean touch. Basing his menu on tradi-

tional island dishes, Chef Urvin uses fresh local ingredients to elevate typical favorites to haute cuisine. Guests are provided a most singular insight into regional dining while enjoying the art of Kitchen Table's distinctive preparation. Carlito is on hand to expound on the merits of the various vintages he has selected to enhance the experience for those who choose their wine-pairing option.

Prior to dinner in the elegant and intimate restaurant, patrons are treated to a complimentary welcome cocktail on the Mirador deck, where they can enjoy a spectacular sunset

and get to know their dining companions. The entire arrangement encourages all to not only enjoy the fabulous cuisine, but share and savor the social aspects of such an evening.

The walls of Kitchen Table are decorated with original works by some of Aruba's most renowned artists, immersing you further in its particular ambiance, completing this incredible feast for the senses.

Seating is extremely limited. Only 14 reservations accepted nightly and four held for spur-of-the-moment gourmands. Reserve early online via: reservations@ktbywhite.com or call 528-7015. □

It's Lunch Time at The Blue Lobster Restaurant!

PALM BEACH - While visiting ARUBA, there is so much to do and so much to see, that our beloved tourists may feel there is not enough time to enjoy everything at hand. When it comes to finding good food and good service, it's possible there are fewer options. Let alone finding a good restaurant that can offer a great variety of culinary experiences at the same time as professional service and reasonable prices. The Blue Lobster Restaurant



is a quaint, cozy small restaurant that makes you feel at home, and gives you the opportunity to indulge yourself in a very casual yet romantic and familiar ambiance. Authentic Aruban Dishes are the stars of the lunch time at The Blue Lobster Restaurant. Savoring an out of this world, award winning Stewed Goat, for example, or a whole fresh red snapper with a good portion of crispy fried 'Funchi' (polenta) along with the best 'Sopi Pisca' (fresh fish

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soup) or any of the other 18 Creole main dishes, is just a way to start a fantastic culinary journey while in Aruba. Yes The Blue Lobster Restaurant does serve these really fantastic Aruban Plates so you can complete The Blue Lobster experience while in ARUBA. We know... The Blue Lobster Restaurant will feature amazing lobster. Lobster specialties are abundant... lobster prepared with love and care, and in twenty-five different ways to please almost any palate. Caribbean lobster brought in fresh from the cool waters of the South American

pasta freak, Creole explorer or lobster fanatic... The Blue Lobster Restaurant will take care of your desires and expectations. GOOD FOOD, GOOD SERVICE AND GOOD PRICES are a mandate and our credo at The Blue Lobster Restaurant. One cannot go wrong when visiting this fantastic Local Flavored restaurant. Like hundreds of customers are saying.... The Blue Lobster is "A Must Visit Place" when it comes to having a Fantastic Dinner - or why not, a Great Lunch - in Aruba. You owe it to yourself... you deserve it. Visit this wonderful place today!

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Mondays will no longer be just another Monday. No! It's Crazy Fish Monday at Bugaloe! Beautiful colorful platter of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen every Monday. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking.

Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till midnight. Start your day of right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing.

A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to some of the best live bands of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, just follow your hips to the music and the fun and smiles saluting you!



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1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$7
Progressive \$1.15 (AWG.2,00)

CASH MANIA

From 8:00pm - 11:00pm

- Prize 1 - \$50 • Prize 2 - \$50
- Prize 3 - \$150 • Prize 4 - \$200

WEDNESDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO

1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$7
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THURSDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO

1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$7
Progressive \$1.15 (AWG.2,00)

Inscription at 6:00pm - Tournament starts at 8:00pm

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- Prize 3 - \$150 • Prize 4 - \$250

FRIDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO

1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$7
Progressive \$1.15 (AWG.2,00)

CRAZY CASH

- Prize 1 - \$100 • Prize 2 - \$200 • Prize 3 - \$300
- From 9:30pm - 11:30pm

SATURDAY

SUPER POWER BALL BINGO

1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$8.50
Progressive \$1.15 (AWG.2,00)

TABLE MANIA

- Prize 1 - \$100 • Prize 2 - \$200 • Prize 3 - \$300

SUNDAY

SUPER POWER BALL BINGO

1:00pm - 3:30pm. Price per Bingo Card \$8.50
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Nekodie & Tamara Honored at the Divi Phoenix Resort

PALM BEACH - Recently, Nekodie & Tamara Mudd were honored as Distinguished Visitors after returning to Aruba for more than 10 consecutive years. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between 10-and-20 years consecutive.

Mr. Ricardo Croes representing Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony at the Divi Phoenix Resort. Tamara commented that she will never change her vacation island for any other island. Top reasons for returning provided by the honorees were they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island," the great weather and friendly Aruban hospitality, the white sand beaches and the local food.

On the pictures are Mr. Croes from ATA together with Nekodie & Tamara and also Avril from the Divi Phoenix Resort. □





Billy Horschel reacts after sinking a short putt on the 18th green to win the Tour Championship golf tournament and the FedEx Cup Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Atlanta.
Associated Press

Horschel caps amazing run with FedEx Cup

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

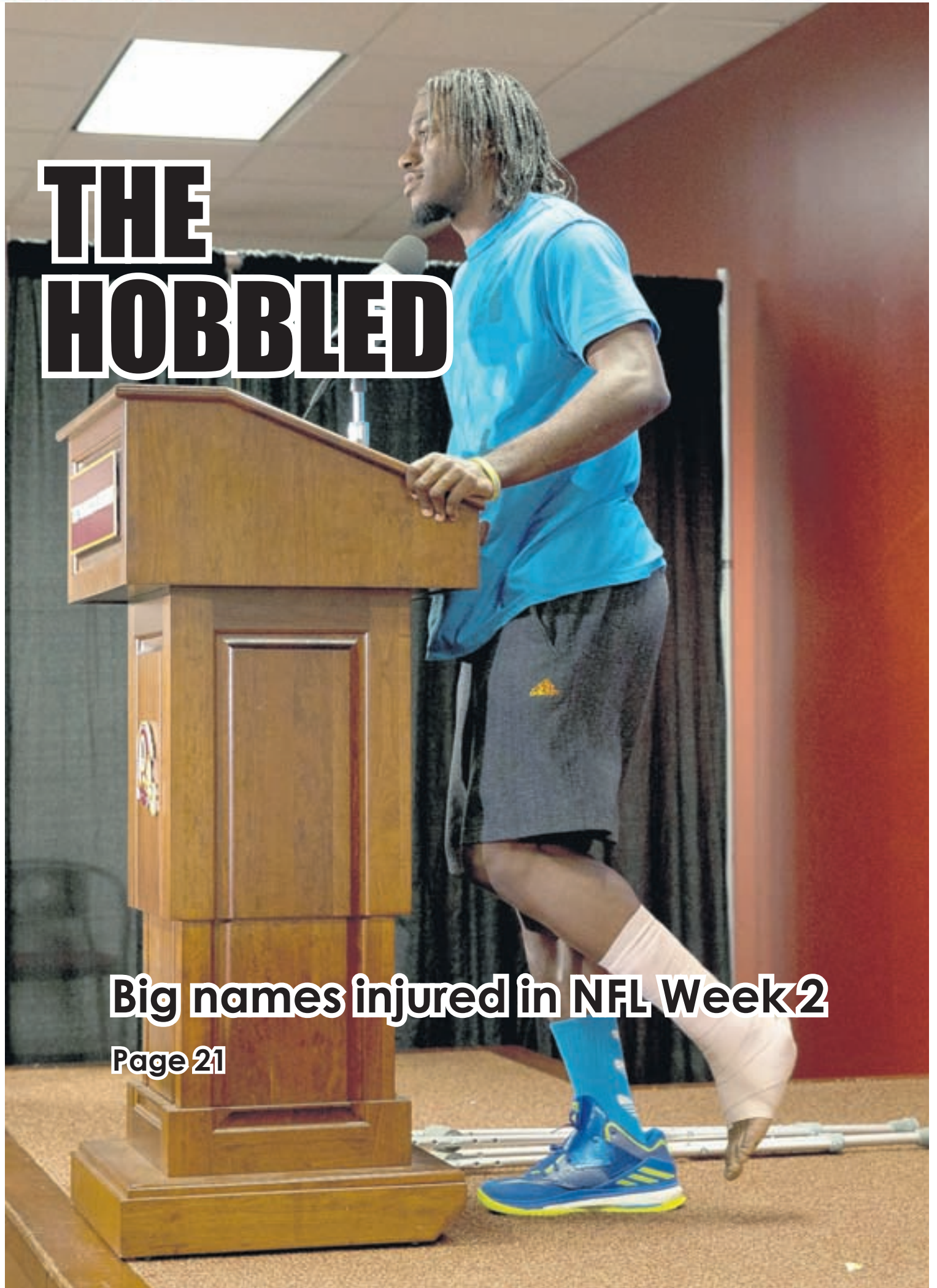
ATLANTA (AP) — Just three weeks ago, Billy Horschel had every reason to start looking ahead to next season. He had missed the cut in the first FedEx Cup play-off event to fall to No. 82 in the standings. He only had two top 10s all year, scant evidence that he was on the verge of something special. He was weeks away from becoming a father. What followed was the best golf of his life, and a payoff that was more than he could grasp. "I'm not sure life can be better than this," Horschel said.

Horschel capped off his improbable playoff run Sunday at East Lake by pulling away from Rory McIlroy early and holding off Jim Furyk late. He posted his 12th straight round in the 60s — a 2-under 68 — to win the Tour Championship by three shots and claim the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million bonus.

That's what these FedEx Cup playoffs are all about — who can get the hot hand over the last four tournaments.

Continued on Next Page

THE HOBBLER



Big names injured in NFL Week 2

Page 21

Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III speaks while standing on one foot during a media availability after an NFL football game against the Jacksonville Jaguars, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Landover, Md. The Redskins won 41-10. Griffin injured his left ankle.
Associated Press

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Bill Horschel poses with both trophies after winning the Tour Championship golf tournament and The FedEx Cup, Sunday, Sept 14, 2014, in Atlanta.
Associated Press

FedEx Cup

Continued from Previous Page

Horschel took that to a level only Tiger Woods can appreciate. No one had ever won the FedEx Cup starting the playoffs lower than No. 19. Horschel started at No. 69. But he was the runner-up in Boston, a winner in Denver and he cashed in big in Atlanta.

Those three weeks of prize money and the FedEx Cup bonus were worth nearly \$13.5 million.

"I remember flying home and talking with my wife and she said, 'You're probably just waiting for the season to be over and start a new season.' I sort of was," Horschel said. "But at the same time, I knew my game was in the right shape and I just needed to get out of my own way. I needed to allow my golf game to show."

It was just too late to show Ryder Cup captain Tom Watson.

Horschel's timing was perfect for the FedEx Cup, not so much for the Ryder Cup. Watson made his three captain's picks after the Deutsche Bank Championship — Horschel was the runner-up — and he had no reason to select a guy whose only PGA Tour win was last year in New Orleans.

Now the Americans head to Scotland without the hottest hand in golf.

McIlroy will have to settle for a year worth more than \$10 million — two majors, a World Golf Championship and undisputed No. 1 in the world. He lost his way with a tee shot into the water for double bogey on the par-3 fifth, and self-destructed with three sloppy bogeys around the turn. Three consecutive birdies late in the round gave him a 71 and a tie for second place with Furyk, who closed with back-to-back bogeys for a 69. This was the Billy Horschel show all week — all month. Clinging to a one-shot lead, he calmly sank an 8-foot par putt on No. 13 to avoid his first three-putt of the week and stay one shot ahead of Furyk. The biggest blow came at the 16th hole when Horschel drove right into the trees, wisely pitched back to the fairway and saw his approach spin back 30 feet short of the cup.

The putt never looked as if it was going anywhere but in.

"It came off and got up on top of that ridge and I said, 'This looks good.' And it went in, and it was huge," Horschel said. "I knew Jim was nipping at my heels and everything, and that was a big, big putt."

Furyk came up short with his approach on the 17th and made bogey to fall two shots behind, and he three-putted the 18th trying to force a birdie.

That made things easy on Horschel, who drilled his tee shot onto the green for a two-putt par to finish at 11-under 269.

Horschel shared hugs and a few tears with his parents. His wife was home in Florida. "Hopefully, she's not going into labor right now," he said.

Not to worry. Brittany Horschel tweeted a picture of her smiling with her hands on her belly that said, "'We' made it! congrats daddy!"

McIlroy's birdies at the end earned him a little extra cash. He wound up No. 3 in the FedEx Cup, which paid an additional \$2 million.

Chris Kirk, who started the Tour Championship as the No. 1 seed in the FedEx Cup, closed with a 68 and tied for fourth with Justin Rose (69) and Jason Day (69). Kirk was second in the FedEx Cup and earned a \$3 million bonus.

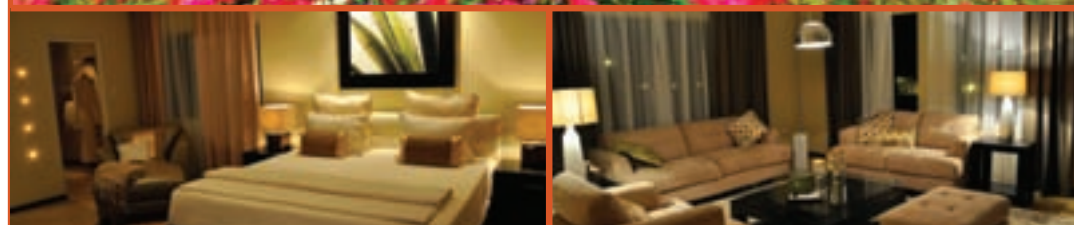
It was the second time McIlroy had the biggest year without winning the FedEx Cup. He is a shoo-in to be PGA Tour player of the year, as he was in 2012. He was in better position this time — tied for the lead through four holes — until Horschel pulled away and the world's No. 1 player ran out of steam.

Needing to start picking up ground on the 600-yard ninth hole, he blasted his drive so far right that it wound up a foot away from the out-of-bounds fence of the practice range. □

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Hyo-Joo Kim wins Evian Masters major at 19

JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France

(AP) — Going up against a seven-time major winner more than twice her age, it was teenager Hyo-Joo Kim who showed the calm nerves of a veteran.

Kim came from a shot back on the last hole to beat Australian great Karrie Webb by one shot on Sunday and win the Evian Championship, becoming the third youngest major winner at 19 years, 2 months.

The South Korean trailed the 39-year-old Webb heading into the 18th but turned the tables with a birdie from 12 feet out. Webb then missed a chance to force a playoff when a difficult attempt for par from the same distance drifted left of the hole.

"I feel very happy, like a bird," Kim said through a translator. "I want to fly in the sky."

Kim led Webb by one shot overnight and they both posted 3-under rounds of 68 in perfect conditions, with no clouds or wind to disrupt them.

She finished on 11-under 273 overall, having shot the lowest ever round in a major with a 61 on Thursday.

Webb, meanwhile, was looking to win her eighth career major and first since Kraft Nabisco in 2006.

"I believe in fate a little bit, and I wasn't meant to win," Webb said. "I hit a lot of good putts this week. Probably the one on the last was the poorest I hit all week."

Only Morgan Pressel and Lexi Thompson — both from the U.S. — have won majors at a younger age than Kim, who is studying physical education in Seoul.

She seemed to take it all in her stride.

When Webb's putt rolled wide, Kim removed her glasses slowly and then walked up to give Webb a small hug.

Her caddie, Gordon Rowan, said Kim didn't know she'd won at first.

"I don't think she was aware of the real situation of the scores," Rowan said. "I said 'You've won. She said 'No,

no, I haven't,' which was quite sweet."

Kim and Rowan were paired randomly the last time she played Evian, tying for fourth in 2012 — the final year before Evian became the fifth major. It's a

partnership that has flourished since.

"My player at the time hadn't qualified, so I just offered my services," Rowan recalled. "She was a young amateur, they were looking for a caddie." □



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Contador wins Spanish Vuelta, his 6th grand tour

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, Spain (AP) — Two months after exiting the Tour de France with a leg fracture, Alberto Contador rebounded in style by winning his sixth grand tour title after protecting his lead on the 21st and final stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Sunday.

The Tinkoff-Saxo rider won his home race for a third time, to go with two Tour de France victories and one Giro d'Italia title.

"This is a dream come true for me to win my third Vuelta. I didn't expect it," Contador said.

Contador entered the concluding 9.7-kilometer (6-mile) individual time trial with a healthy lead of 1 minute, 37 seconds over fellow former Tour de France winner Chris Froome and focused on avoiding any slips on the rain-slick streets. Adriano Malori of Italy won the stage, taking advantage of his early start un-

der dry conditions before a shower burst over the medieval city of Santiago de Compostela.

Froome, who also en-

Former winner Alejandro Valverde completed the podium, 1:50 off the pace. Contador's first grand tour win was at the Giro in 2008,



Alberto Contador of Spain celebrates on the podium after winning the 20th stage of the Spanish Vuelta cycling, a 185.7-kilometer (115-mile) ride between Santo Estevo De Ribas De Sil and Puerto De Ancares, Spain, Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014.

Associated Press

tered the race after injuries forced him to withdraw from the Tour, finished the race runner-up for the second time, 1 minute, 10 seconds behind Contador.

the same year he won the Vuelta for the first time. He won the Vuelta a second time in 2012.

The 31-year-old Spaniard won the Tour in 2007 and

2009, but was stripped of a third Tour win 2010 for doping. He has now won two major titles since then, both at the Vuelta.

Contador had concentrated on reclaiming the Tour this year, but his plans were dashed when he fell during its 10th stage and fractured his right shin on July 15. He withdrew and soon after said that he wouldn't be in shape to ride in the Vuelta either.

But a week before the race started Contador announced he had been training for 10 days without pain and had decided to compete in the final grand tour of the year. Even so, Contador said he had ruled on fighting for the win.

"In these two months I have had many emotional ups and downs, some days I was hopeful and others not, but I didn't want to finish the season with a fall," Contador said. "When I fell in the Tour I thought I would

make it, but everything started to go wrong and I even thought that it was over. A month ago I didn't think about winning."

Froome also entered the Vuelta looking to bounce back from his early exit from the Tour after injuring his hands following a series of spills. The British rider for team Sky fought Contador until the penultimate stage, when the Spaniard withstood his attacks before surging forward to win at the demanding Puerto de Ancares summit. This was the second time Froome finished runner-up after losing to Juan Jose Cobo in 2011. At the start, both former Tour winners were considered to likely be chasing the fully fit and rested Nairo Quintana, but this year's Giro winner crashed out during the 11th stage. And Contador emerged as the leader after riding strong in the preceding time trial as well as in the mountains. □



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Could Pacquiao fight be in cards for Mayweather?

TIM DAHLBERG
AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Floyd Mayweather Jr. may have boxed himself into a corner by outboxing Marcos Maidana in their rematch. And it might open the door — if just a crack — for the fight with Manny Pacquiao that boxing fans have been craving for years.

"If the Pacquiao fight happens, it happens," Mayweather said Saturday night after disposing of Maidana for the second time in four months. "You can ask the same questions and get the same answers. I call my own shots."

That Mayweather is even acknowledging the possibility of a fight with Pacquiao is significant, since his previous stance had been to ignore his Filipino rival. But it may be that Mayweather has little choice but to turn to Pacquiao for a huge money fight as the careers of both fighters draw to an end. A lot of that will depend on the pay-per-view numbers for the second Maidana fight. What they say about Mayweather's drawing power likely will determine his next steps.

The first fight didn't sell well on Showtime — at least by the lofty standards of the pay-per-view king — and with the promotion for the second clouded by Mayweather's comments on Ray Rice and domestic violence, the general feeling among boxing executives is that the rematch may have done even worse. Add the fact that Mayweather didn't win any fans by mostly playing defense against Maidana and it's hard to see how that will change for his next bout, which likely will take place next May.

"We're not sure what the game plan is," Mayweather said. "I'll probably fight in May. I may

not fight until September."

Mayweather's most probable opponent for a fight in May would be Britain's Amir Khan, who took himself out of contention for Saturday's fight because he wouldn't be able to train properly while observing Ramadan. But

hurts — in his wallet. Mayweather's \$32 million payday for Maidana brought his earnings in the past year to \$100 million in three fights, but he has only two fights left on a six-bout deal he signed with Showtime. The network would like to see him fight someone who

needed. In the end, two ringside judges scored it 116-111 for Mayweather, while the third had it 115-112. "I felt sharper in the first fight, my rhythm was off," said Mayweather who was roughed up by Maidana in May on his way to a majority decision. "I got hit with some

"How can he say I bit the glove with my mouthpiece?" Maidana asked. "I'm not a dog."

Mayweather said before the fight that his last two fights will take place next year, and that he would retire with a 49-0 mark. Many in boxing, however, believe May-



Floyd Mayweather shows off his belts after beating Marcos Maidana during their WBA welterweight and WBC super welterweight title fight, Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

while Khan would help boost sales overseas, he has lost two of his last five fights and is not popular enough in the U.S. to help sell pay-per-view.

Mayweather's continued refusal to fight Pacquiao or any other fighters promoted by Bob Arum limits the pool of possible opponents. That's why Maidana got a rematch despite no real outcry by boxing fans for it but it may be beginning to cost Mayweather where it really

might help him sell more PPVs, and Mayweather himself would earn more money from his cut of the revenue if he boosted sales.

Mayweather had little trouble against Maidana in their rematch, moving from side to side and frustrating the Argentine while winning many of the early rounds. But the crowd at the MGM Grand booed at times because Mayweather wouldn't engage in the brawl that Maidana desperately

shots tonight I shouldn't have gotten hit with. But that comes with the sport." Mayweather was in control of the bout until the eighth round, when he claimed Maidana bit him on the hand in a clinch after first trying to hit him below the belt. He said he couldn't use his left hand the rest of the right because it went numb.

Maidana denied biting Mayweather, and said Mayweather was sticking his glove in his eye in the exchange.

weather would go for a 50th win to surpass the unbeaten mark of 49-0 held by the late heavyweight Rocky Marciano. That could mean a megafight with Pacquiao in the spring of 2016, perhaps to open a new arena being built by the MGM on the Las Vegas Strip.

Asked if a fight with Pacquiao would be realistic, Mayweather was as evasive as he was in the ring with Maidana. "What is realistic is I am 47-0," he said. □

USA wins basketball worlds, 129-92 over Serbia

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

MADRID (AP) — With golden confetti raining on their heads and "Party in the U.S.A." ringing in their ears, it must have been hard for the U.S. basketball players to hear anything.

Doesn't matter. They had stopped listening long ago. All the questions about their talent, the doubts about their ability, were put down as easily as their opponents.

"It kind of was, again, a smack to our face, saying the U.S. was sending the B-team to go play in the World Cup," forward Kenneth Faried said. "Just because LeBron's not here, Kobe's not here, (Kevin) Durant's not here, doesn't mean anything. We can step up and win the gold, too. That's what we did to-night."

And just like every other game, the Americans did it easily.

Tournament MVP Kyrie Irving made all six of his 3-point attempts and scored 26 points, and the U.S. repeated as world champion for the first time by crushing Serbia 129-92 on Sunday in the Basketball World Cup.

James Harden added 23 points for the Americans, who made 11 of 16

3-pointers in a sensational-shooting first half, adding one final romp to a tournament full of them.

This depleted team that was supposedly weak enough to lose was too good to be touched.

"Obviously we didn't have

tory in the tournament was by 21 points over Turkey. They thought they would get a tough game Sunday, but were simply too good to let that happen.

They finished at 58 percent from the field. They made 15 of 30 3-point attempts

like we dominated. Tonight we had like about a 35-minute spurt."

The Americans were supposed to have All-Star forwards Durant, Kevin Love and Blake Griffin, who all informed USA Basketball not long before the tour-

official FIBA events and 18 in exhibition play — and are automatically qualified for the 2016 Olympics in Brazil. LeBron James, Durant, Carmelo Anthony and Chris Paul might want to return for that competition. But the Americans will have to leave room for some players from this team, which has loads of young talent that figures to get even better from the time it spent together.

It was the fifth world title for the Americans, tying Yugoslavia for the most all-time. And the second for Derrick Rose, who used this tournament as his return after missing most of the last two seasons following a pair of knee surgeries, along with Curry and Rudy Gay.

It was the first medal for Serbia, which had been a part of Yugoslavia when it won five. The Yugoslavians had been the last repeat champions, winning in 1998 and 2002.

The Serbians were only 2-3 in the group stage but then routed previously unbeaten Greece and Brazil before building a big lead and holding on for a 90-85 semifinal victory over France, which had beat them in the group stage and knocked out tournament co-favorite Spain in the quarters. □



United States' players celebrate after winning the final World Basketball match against Serbia at the Palacio de los Deportes stadium in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014. Associated Press

a very close game all tournament, but for that to happen we had to play hard for 40 minutes and not relax and not give any inch while we were out there," guard Stephen Curry said. The Americans came in winning by 32.5 points per game and their closest vic-

and had eight of their 12 players score in double figures. "I think the results were dominant, but we had spurts of dominance in a lot of games," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "And we had tough games and then all of a sudden we'd have a spurt and it looked

that they would be unavailable.

But Irving and Harden stuck around, and despite sending the youngest U.S. team since NBA players debuted in 1992, the Americans remained as dominant as ever. They have won 63 straight games — 45 in of-



John Isner, of the United States, serves to Lukas Lacko, of Slovakia, during the first set of a Davis Cup tennis match Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

Associated Press

HOFFMAN ESTATES, Ill. (AP) — John Isner and Sam Querrey won their singles matches Sunday as the U.S. completed a 5-0 sweep of Slovakia in the Davis Cup World Group playoff.

Isner captured the final nine games and beat Lukas Lacko 6-3, 6-0. Quer-

rey then defeated Norbert Gombos 6-4, 4-6, 6-4. Isner and Querrey each won two matches in the tie.

Entering play Sunday, the U.S. had already won the first three matches and clinched a spot in the 2015 World Group — extending a streak in the top tier that began in 1989.

Isner, Querrey win; U.S. beats Slovakia in Davis Cup

Isner defeated Gombos and Querrey beat Martin Klizan in singles Friday night, before Mike and Bob Bryan ensured the victory with a lopsided doubles triumph Saturday over Gombos and Lacko. Isner then breezed past Lacko in 43 minutes Sunday. "We knew how important this tie was," said Isner, who was sidelined by an ankle injury when the U.S. lost to Great Britain earlier this year.

"We belong in the World Group for sure and we're back in there. That was the goal all along, obviously."

Lacko, ranked 86th in the world, replaced Slovakia's No. 1 Klizan for Sunday's

first match. Isner, ranked 16th, broke in the eighth game for a 5-3 lead, held at love to win the first set and then dominated the second. He had four breaks of serve and eight aces.

"It's a different feel. There is not much riding on the line for it beside just winning," Isner said of his final match.

"We had already advanced. So as far as that goes, it's a little bit maybe tough to get revved up for it. But I'm happy I won."

Querrey hit 13 aces and fought off a tough challenge from the spirited Gombos, the 126th-ranked player in the world. Sunday's matches were

shortened to best-of-3 since the team competition had already been decided.

"Today it was already decided, so it was something like a practice match," Lacko said. "With John, you never have like a rhythm. So I never got into the match today."

U.S. Captain Jim Courier hopes his team can transfer the success from the last three days into the 2015 play. The draw is scheduled for Thursday and the first matches will be next March.

"This is a great way for us to finish the year in Davis Cup, go out 5-0 like this and then to carry that forward," Courier said. □

RG3, Charles among big names injured in Week 2

The Associated Press

After a tough week off the field, the NFL got back to playing — and the focus turned to big-name players who were injured all over the league.

Robert Griffin III, Jamaal Charles, DeSean Jackson, A.J. Green and Knowshon Moreno all left their games on a busy Sunday for team trainers and medical staffs. Griffin dislocated his left ankle in the first quarter of Washington's 41-10 victory over Jacksonville, putting his season in jeopardy. The Redskins quarterback was scheduled for X-rays and an MRI to determine more about the injury. He and coach Jay Gruden did not offer a timetable for a return, but the injury typically sidelines NFL players for at least two months.

"Moments like this," Griffin said, "you just have to keep the faith."

If there is also a fracture, Griffin will need surgery and will almost certainly be done for the year. He was hurt when he landed awkwardly on his ankle as he finished the throw and then tumbled out of bounds. The pass was caught by Jackson for an 11-yard gain.

"It's an excruciating pain," Griffin said. "Anytime you look at your ankle and it's going in a strange direction, you don't want to get up."

Jackson also left the game shortly after he sprained the AC joint in his left shoulder in the first quarter. He hoped to be able to play next week against Philadelphia, his former club.

Other Redskins players injured included running back Roy Helu (strained quadriceps), guard Shawn Lauvao (sprained right knee) and fullback Darrel Young (sprained back).

Jaguars tight end Mercedes Lewis was carted off after leaving with a high left ankle sprain. Rookie receiver Allen Hurns injured his left ankle and was scheduled for X-rays.

In Denver, Charles left with a left ankle injury after being brought down in the

first quarter against the Broncos, and would not return. Charles was stopped on a run up the middle by Broncos safety T.J. Ward and then hobbled to the bench.

Green aggravated an injured toe during the Cincinnati Bengals' opening series and sat out the rest of the game, a 24-10 win over Atlanta.

Green missed practice time during the week with an injured toe on his right foot. He started against the Falcons, but came to the sideline after a few plays to have the foot examined. He walked off without assistance, limping slightly.

The Bengals lost four more players: Pro Bowl linebacker Vontaze Burfict (pinched nerve in his neck), defensive tackle Brandon Thompson (left knee), tight end Alex Smith (left biceps) and right guard Kevin Zeitler (right calf).

At Orchard Park, New York, Moreno didn't return after



Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III (10) throws and injures his left ankle in front of Jacksonville Jaguars outside linebacker LaRoy Reynolds (56) during the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Landover, Md. The Redskins have said he will not return to the game.

Associated Press

by Drew Stanton, an eight-year veteran who had four previous career starts. Stanton went 14 of 19 for 167 yards and led the Cardinals on three long scoring drives in a 25-14 victory.

Giants cornerback Walter Thurmond left in the second half of the loss with a pectoral injury, and middle linebacker Jon Beason went out with a toe injury. Tampa Bay running back Doug Martin sat out the Buccaneers' game against St. Louis because of a knee injury. Meanwhile, Rams quarterback Shaun Hill was active after being limited in practice with a thigh injury, but third-stringer Austin Davis got the start.



Kansas City Chiefs running back Jamaal Charles (25) is tripped up by Denver Broncos strong safety T.J. Ward (43) and Quinton Carter during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in Denver.

Associated Press

ham then struck him from the left, hitting him directly in the arm.

Tennessee cornerback Jason McCourty injured a groin muscle and missed the second half of the Titans' 26-10 loss at home to

Dallas.

Arizona quarterback Carson Palmer was ruled out against the New York Giants on Sunday because of a shoulder injury. After he was limited at practice all week, he was replaced



France bristles as Netflix advances in Europe

LOUISE DEWAST
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Netflix is tapping into six new markets Monday hoping to gain a big subscriber base around Europe, but is facing a frosty welcome in France. Well-established French competitors are trying to head off a Netflix wave, the government wants oversight and the cinema industry wants Netflix to invest heavily in French productions. The video-streaming gi-

Monday. The company was a pioneer in the field in the U.S., and enjoyed new success by creating original content such as the series "House of Cards." But video-on-demand services are now already well-established in many European markets. Canal+, France's main pay-TV operator, has half a million subscribers for its CanalPlay, started in 2011, and moved Wednesday to head off a competi-

flix," said Holzman. Bruno Delecour, head of FilmoTV, one of France's first video-on-demand companies, said the buzz around Netflix is positive for the French market, because it incites new households to try video-on-demand services. But Delecour remains vigilant. The entrepreneur decided to focus on developing a specialized offer in movies rather than competing with a generalized content provider like Netflix.

But French movie and television industry experts rally around the idea of the "French Exception." "Offering only American series will not work," said Pascal Rogard, director of France's Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers. Aware of this, Netflix has already planned to produce an eight-episode television drama series called "Marseille," written by French award-winning writer Dan Frank and set to start in late 2015.



A person uses Netflix in Palo Alto, Calif. Netflix is tapping into six new markets on Monday hoping to gain hundred thousand new subscribers and balance out the billions spent on entertainment content each year. (AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

ant, which has more than 50 million subscribers in 40 countries, this year earmarked \$400 million to expand further internationally. It's launching now in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Belgium and Luxembourg, after setting up in Britain, Ireland, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands in recent years. The presence of Netflix, which has headquarters in Los Gatos, California, is welcome in most European countries, but less so in France, where Netflix hopes to reach a third of French homes in the next five to 10 years. Netflix declined to comment on its challenges in France before the official launch

tive blow from Netflix. Canal+, which already owns French rights to "House of Cards," launched a new partnership with HBO as well as the possibility to pre-download series and movies to watch later without an internet connection. It also announced it will create French and American-produced TV series. "What is impressive with Netflix is its technological and marketing abilities," said Frederic Goldsmith, from a French-based group of movie producers, "but its service isn't new." Patrick Holzman, CanalPlay's director, is banking on their "French touch" and proximity with customers. "Our strategy is the same, with or without Net-

"We've been preparing for competitors for years. We made the choice to occupy one segment of the market and invested heavily accordingly." In Germany, experts have said little impact is expected by Netflix's arrival, as the country already offers a considerable amount of free and pay-TV. Another challenge in France is a requirement that 40 percent of content on French radio, TV and movies in theaters must be of French origin. Because Netflix's European headquarters are in Amsterdam, the company does not have to comply with the rule, which is designed to protect domestic creativity.

But for some contributors to French cinema, this investment effort falls short. "We welcome the competition," said Rogard, "but only if they're playing with the same rules." Netflix will have to comply with some French and European regulations. Notably, they will be barred from streaming films under three years old. From January 2015 onwards, Netflix will also have to pay a two percent tax if their annual earnings are more than 10 million euros, following a recent decision by the French Culture Ministry to tax operators based abroad. Developing domestic production is not such a major concern in other markets. □

IPO ROUNDUP

NEW YORK (AP) — Shares of ReWalk Robotics, which makes wearable robotic exoskeletons that helps paralyzed patients walk, more than doubled in their stock market debut. The medical device maker was one of two health companies that had their initial public offering Friday. Shares of the other, cancer treatment developer Affimed Therapeutics, fell as the broader markets ended Friday with their first loss since early August. IPOs from health companies have been hot this year. Shares of online health care software company Castlight Health Inc. and drug developer Ultragenyx Pharma more than doubled in their first day of trading earlier this year. Here's how last week's IPOs fared:

REWALK ROBOTICS LTD.

The Israeli company raised \$36 million after offering 3 million at \$12 per share. And underwriters have a 30-day option to buy an additional 450,000 shares. The offering was below what the company previously expected. In August, the company expected to raise as much as \$53.6 million by offering 3.35 million shares between \$14 per share and \$16 share. ReWalk plans to use the cash raised to increase marketing and develop new products. Shares of the company, which are listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange under the ticker symbol "RWLK," soared \$13.60, or 113.3 percent, to close at \$25.60.

AFFIMED THERAPEUTICS

The German biopharmaceutical company develops treatments that use the body's immune system to fight tumor cells. It raised \$56 million after offering 8 million shares at \$7 per share. Underwriters have a 30-day option to buy an additional 1.2 million shares. The offering was below what the company previously expected. The company planned to raise as much as \$81.3 million by offering 6.25 million shares between \$11 per share and \$13 per share. □

Samsung accuses LG execs of damaging its products

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Samsung Electronics Co. has accused senior executives of domestic rival LG Electronics Inc. of intentionally vandalizing its washing machines at retail stores in Germany and has asked for an official investigation. In a statement Sunday, Samsung said it had asked the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office to investigate executives from a Korean company who were

seen as damaging its washing machines displayed at shopping malls in Berlin. A Samsung spokesman confirmed that the Korean company referred to was LG. "The people in question have been implicated in deliberately destroying Samsung washing machines displayed at retail stores in Berlin, Germany, where, at the time, the annual IFA electronics trade show was underway," Sam-

sung's statement said. "It is very unfortunate that Samsung had to request that a high-ranking executive be investigated by the nation's legal authorities, but this was inevitable ... the truth must be revealed for the sake of fostering fair competition." LG Electronics denied Samsung's claim. It said in a statement that while it is true that some of its executives and staff, including a president, had visited a Ber-

lin store and looked at various products, it is common for its employees to examine rival company's products abroad. "If our company had an intention to destroy products of a certain company to tarnish the image of the product, it would be commonsensical to not have our executives to directly carry out such acts," LG's statement said. "We hope that this incident is not an

effort to tarnish our company, which is the global No. 1 maker of washing machines." LG said the model in question had weak hinges, but it did not say whether its executives had damaged the products. Samsung said LG tarnished both its brand image and the reputation of its employees with claims that its washing machines were defective. □

HSBC paying \$550M to resolve mortgage bond claims

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — British bank HSBC has agreed to pay \$550 million to resolve U.S. claims that it misled U.S. mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac about risky mortgage securities it sold them before the housing market collapsed in 2007.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency, which oversees Fannie and Freddie, announced the settlement this weekend with HSBC. London-based HSBC is Europe's largest bank and also has extensive operations in the U.S. Its U.S. division has about \$289 billion in assets, making it the 9th largest bank in the U.S.

HSBC sold the securities to the two mortgage companies between 2005 and 2007. Under the settlement, HSBC is paying \$176 million to Fannie and \$374 million to Freddie.

"We are pleased to have resolved this matter," Stuart Alderoty, HSBC North America's senior executive vice president and general counsel, said in a statement.

The settlement is the latest federal government agreement

over actions related to the financial crisis that struck in 2008. The meltdown, triggered by vast sales of high-risk mortgage securities, plunged the economy into the deepest recession since the Great Depression.

The securities soured after the housing bubble burst in 2007, losing billions in value.

The government rescued Fannie and Freddie at the height of the financial crisis in September 2008 when they were on the verge of collapse. The companies received taxpayer aid totaling \$187 billion. They have since become profitable and repaid the full bailouts.

The FHFA sued 18 financial institutions in 2011 over their sales of mortgage securities to Fannie and Freddie. The total price for the securities sold was \$196 billion. The agency said Friday it has now reached settlements with all but two of the banks.

A number of big banks, including Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, Bank of America and Citigroup, previously have been accused of abuses in sales of securities linked to mortgages in the years leading up to the crisis. Together,

they have paid hundreds of millions in penalties to settle civil charges brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which accused them of deceiving investors about the quality of

In recent months, the Justice Department and state regulators have reached multibillion-dollar agreements over mortgage securities with JPMorgan, Citigroup and Bank of America. The most



People walk past a branch of the HSBC bank in London. HSBC has agreed to pay \$550 million to resolve U.S. claims that it misled U.S. mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac about risky mortgage securities it sold them before the housing market collapsed in 2007. (AP Photo/Leferis Pitarakis)

the bonds they sold.

Goldman agreed in 2010 to pay \$550 million to settle the SEC's charges, the largest penalty against a Wall Street firm in the agency's history.

recent was announced last month with Bank of America, the second-largest U.S. bank, which is paying a record \$16.65 billion — \$7 billion of it earmarked for consumer relief. □

EU ministers seek to create investment climate

COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — European finance ministers agreed Saturday on the necessity of leveraging private investments with urgent structural reforms to relaunch the continent's moribund economy.

The ministers focused on a proposal by Jean-Claude Juncker, incoming president of the European Commission, for 300 billion

euros (\$388 billion) in public and private investments to revive the economy, but few details emerged at the informal meeting. "The master plan for growth is more investments, above all private but also public in the form of catalyzer," said Italian Finance Minister Pier Carlo Padoan, who chaired the session under the rotating Italian presidency of the 28-nation European Union.

He said structural reforms are urgently needed to encourage investments and "create conditions of profitability."

The ministers have asked European Commission and the European Investment for reports on concrete measures that would encourage investment, Padoan said.

They could include incentives, regulatory simplification and better use of

public money, Padoan said earlier, adding that "it is up to governments to facilitate private investments."

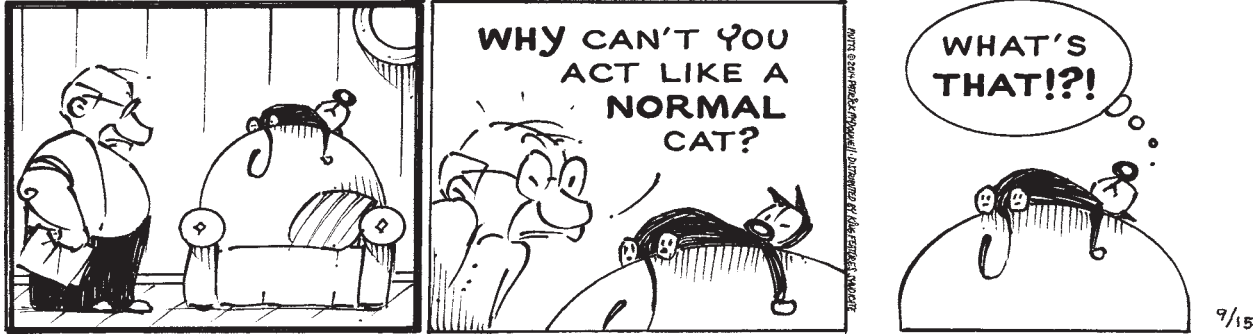
The meeting was the first by EU finance ministers since European Central Bank chief Mario Draghi outlined a three-pillared strategy to save the eurozone economy, including more stimulus from the central bank, added government spending and

pro-business reforms.

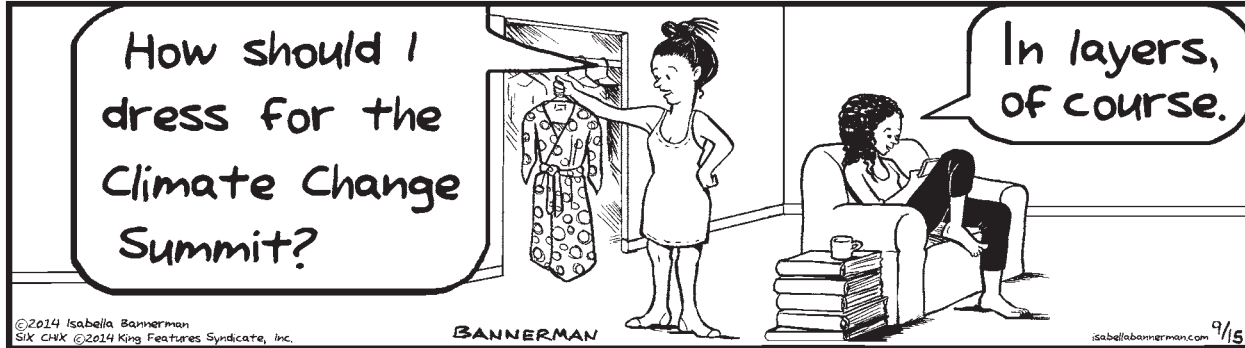
ECB vice president Vitor Constancio said the central bank supported the 300 billion euro fund, noting that investments in the eurozone were 20 percent below 2007 levels.

Europe's economy was stagnant for the second quarter, and forecast to grow under 1 percent this year. Unemployment remains at a painful 11.5 percent. □

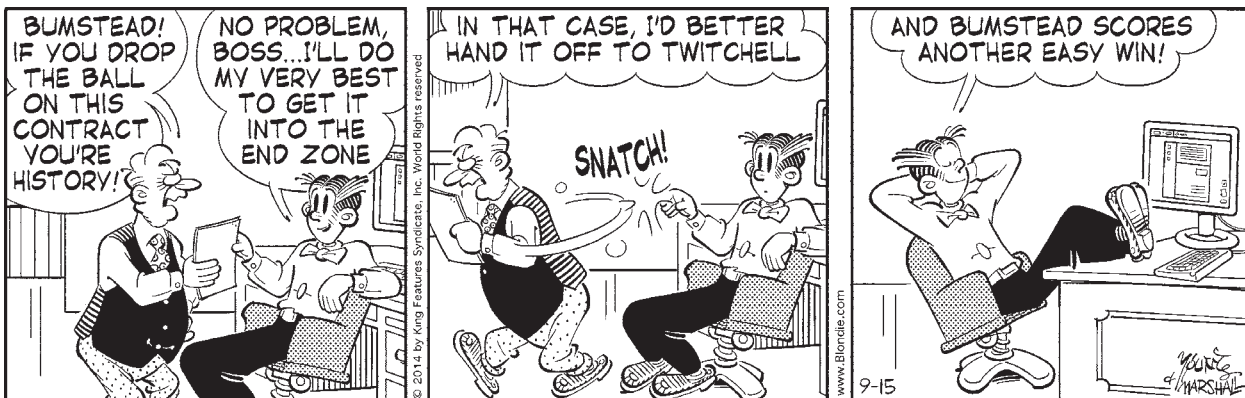
Mutts



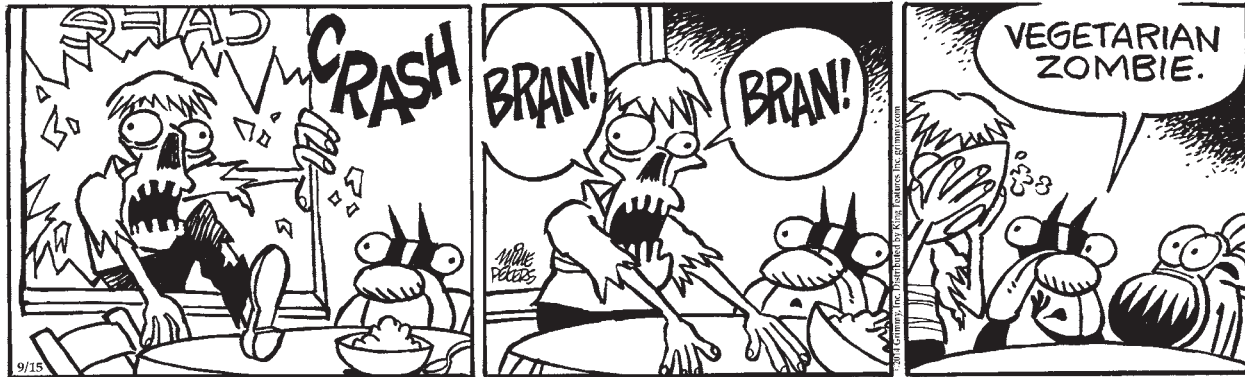
6 Chix



Blondie



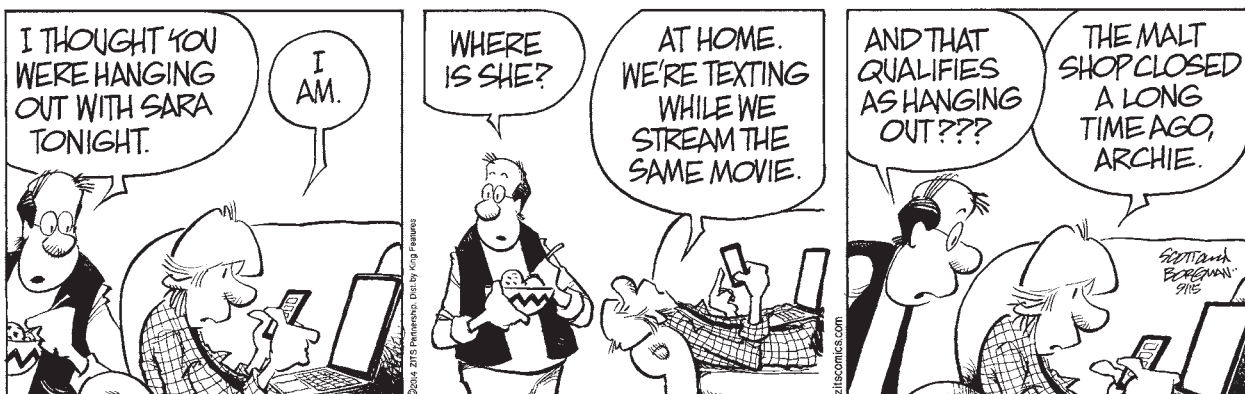
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4			2		5	7	1	
	2	1		6				9
	9				4			2
1					6	5		7
	7			1			3	
9		5	3					6
3			6				8	
2				8		4	7	
	5	9	4		1			3

Difficulty Level ★

9/15

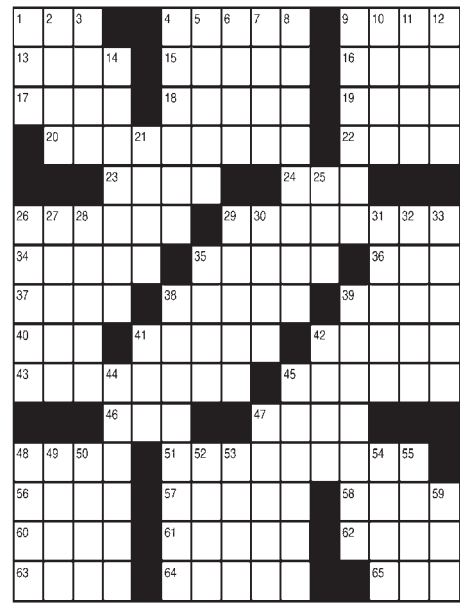
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

9	6	7	3	5	8	4	1	2
1	5	4	2	7	6	3	8	9
8	3	2	9	1	4	5	6	7
5	2	1	7	8	9	6	4	3
4	8	3	6	2	1	7	9	5
6	7	9	5	4	3	8	2	1
3	1	6	4	9	5	2	7	8
2	4	8	1	3	7	9	5	6
7	9	5	8	6	2	1	3	4

ACROSS

- 1 ___ much; excessively
- 4 Play a guitar
- 9 Paper bag
- 13 Possesses
- 15 "___ Were the Days"
- 16 Capable
- 17 Actor Gregory
- 18 Regulations
- 19 Like pricey hamburger
- 20 Ship travelers
- 22 Finds a sum
- 23 Can material
- 24 ___ and haw; hesitate
- 26 Go higher
- 29 Candies made of nuts & sugar
- 34 Make butter
- 35 Barking marine mammals
- 36 1/4 and 3/4
- 37 "Red Planet"
- 38 Singer Bailey
- 39 Snout
- 40 Inventor ___ Whitney
- 41 Tremble
- 42 Dawn
- 43 Slumberers
- 45 Handbags
- 46 Sheep's cry
- 47 Regrets
- 48 Messy person
- 51 Tiny slivers of wood
- 56 Long skirt
- 57 In the air
- 58 Highway
- 60 Microwave, e.g.
- 61 Gallant; chivalrous
- 62 Christmas
- 63 Group of hoodlums
- 64 Rough woolen coat fabric
- 65 Bedtime, for some
- DOWN
- 1 Blouse or shirt
- 2 Is in the red
- 3 "___ upon a time..."
- 28 Ring-necked ___; game bird
- 29 Mountaintops
- 30 Uncommon
- 31 Lunch hours
- 32 Follow as a result of
- 33 Oozes
- 35 Burn
- 38 Ring-necked ___; game bird
- 39 Baby's room
- 41 Hot tub
- 42 Hard fat of cows & sheep
- 44 Receding
- 45 Kicked a soccer ball
- 47 Soldier's gun
- 48 Air pollution
- 49 Molten rock
- 50 Work animals
- 52 Farm machine
- 53 Part of the ear
- 54 Drive out
- 55 Mall event
- 59 Comfy room



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/15/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

WASA	TRACK	CHAT
OUTS	HELEN	ROLE
KNIT	AFIRE	UMPS
STRAINS	EERIEST	
	IRK	OASIS
GLARE	PAL	LEADS
HOLE	PER	KERNEL
ACE	MEASLES	NAY
NARROW	MUG	WELL
ALTER	RAG	SIXTY
	GABON	POD
SCARLET	RENEGED	
COVE	LASER	NOVA
OMIT	OTHER	EYED
TEDS	WEEDY	DANS

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9/15/14

Airstrikes

Continued from page 8

"The Iraqis would have to be a major participant in that decision," the official added. "It has to be well structured and organized." Iraqi officials have already offered some thoughts about what the next step should be. In recent weeks, the United States has focused its airstrikes on the defense of Irbil, securing the Mosul Dam and protecting the Haditha Dam. But al-Abadi has asked the United States to take action on the Syrian side of the Iraqi-Syrian border to deprive the Islamic State of the safe havens it enjoys in that area. Massoud Barzani, the president of the Kurdish autonomous region, made a similar request in telephone call with Kerry on Saturday night, State Department officials said.

"The Iraqis have asked for assistance in the border regions, and that's something we're looking at," the first State Department official said.

Iraqi officials have long experience working with the United States military and had appealed for U.S. airstrikes against Islamic State fighters in Iraq months before the Obama administration decided to conduct them.

But the Shiite-dominated Iraqi government has no experience in working with militaries from Sunni states in the Persian Gulf.

Arab nations have the capability to conduct air operations. Saudi Arabian planes participated in the American-led coalition that evicted Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces from Kuwait in 1991.

And the United Arab Emirates sent F-16s and Mirage fighters to join the 2011 international military intervention in Libya that eventually led to the ouster of Moammar Gadhafi.

Last month, the United Arab Emirates carried out airstrikes against Islamist allied militias in Libya, operating out of bases in Egypt. The Obama administration was not consulted in advance of that operation, U.S. officials have acknowl-

edged.

While indicating a willingness to carry out airstrikes inside Iraq, France appears to have reservations about bombing targets inside Syria. But some Arab states appear to have no such inhibitions.

"Some have indicated for quite a while to do them elsewhere," the first State Department official said. "But, again, we've got to sort through all that, because you can't just go and bomb something." Iraq has a small air force and a limited capacity to deliver accurate airstrikes. The civilian casualties from some Iraqi attacks have been exploited by the Islamic State to try to mobilize popular support against the Iraqi government.

On Saturday, al-Abadi sought to reassure Sunnis that Iraqi forces would not risk civilian casualties by using artillery or conducting airstrikes against Islamic State targets in heavily populated areas.

"They have a very new air force," a third State Department official said, referring to the Iraqi mili-

tary. "Their targeting is not nearly as precise as ours, and they have made some real mistakes."

Much of the air campaign is intended to support Iraqi armed forces that are still in the process of being reconstituted and new Iraqi National Guard units, which will include Sunni tribal fighters but which still need to be established. A Pentagon program to train and equip the moderate Syrian resistance also has yet to be carried out.

The time-consuming mission to train these ground forces is essential because they are needed to control territory after Islamic State fighters are pushed out, and the Obama administration has ruled out sending U.S. ground troops. But it will slow the pace of the campaign to contain, degrade and eventually destroy the group, a process that officials said last week could take three years.

"This is not the '91 gulf war," the first State Department official said Sunday. "It's just a different type of campaign."

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Will Apple's digital wallet kill the card swipe?

MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Apple wants the plastic credit card to become as rare as the paper check.

On Tuesday, the company announced Apple Pay, a digital payment system that lets people pay for retail store purchases using their phones rather than cash or credit cards. The service, which will work both with iPhones and Apple's new Watch, is backed by a host of big retailers, along with most major banks and credit card issuers, including Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

So-called contactless payment isn't new. Starbucks, McDonald's, PayPal, Google and Square offer their own services, but only a small portion of customers use them. Some experts believe Apple Pay — with its presence on millions of iPhones and its advanced security features — could be the service that leads to widespread adoption of the digital wallet. Citi Investment Research analyst Mark May believes the sum total of mobile payments could grow from \$1 billion in 2013 to \$58.4 billion by 2017.

Payment digitization paints an enticing vision of shopping's future: simply tap your device against a checkout screen and walk away with your new shoes. But despite the flashy Apple Pay launch, Apple faces challenges making that vision a reality. The company and other digital wallet providers must convince shoppers that the transactions are safe — especially in the wake of recent high-



In this Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2014, file photo, Apple CEO Tim Cook introduces the new Apple Pay product in Cupertino, Calif.

profile data breaches at Home Depot and Target. Meanwhile, the company must also make a case to retailers that it's worth it for them to invest in new point-of-sale systems.

Many U.S. merchants still aren't sold on the idea. About 220,000 stores are set up to accept Apple Pay. That's only 5.5 percent of the 3.6 million retail locations in the U.S., according to the National Retail Federation. The biggest U.S. retailers, including Wal-Mart and Best Buy, are not participating in Apple Pay.

The main reason is cost. Each point-of-sale device, which uses something called near-field communication technology, costs hundreds of dollars, plus hours of worker training. And there's been little customer demand for the systems.

That may change now that Apple has entered the arena, says Gartner analyst Avivah Litan.

"There's no doubt young people want to use phones to make payments, but they have to have a place to pay," says Litan. She predicts bigger retailers will see how well Apple partners like McDonald's do before they move into mobile payments.

"If it goes well at other retailers, Wal-Mart and other companies may break down and start taking it," Litan says.

In countries such as Canada and the U.K., contactless point-of-sale systems are widespread, and as a result, such payments are far more common. In Canada, for instance, about 20 percent of transactions at registers processed by MasterCard are completed by contactless payment, ac-

cording to MasterCard.

"What you learn from that is when consumers start 'tapping' two or three times, they never go back to their old behavior at that merchant. ... It's just a much better experience," says Ed McLaughlin, chief emerging payments officer at MasterCard.

One of the strengths of Apple Pay is its security. Its system uses the company's Touch ID fingerprint technology, a secure chip, and payments that require a one-time security code. That kind of security — similar to the chip-and-pin credit card system used in Europe — would prevent the type of breaches that happened at Target and Home Depot. And it could be a compelling reason

for retailers to adopt Apple Pay, Litan says.

"If you get enough people using the service, it would cut down on retailers' security costs, and that's why over time it may really take off," she says.

Still, not everyone is convinced that swiping a credit or debit card is that much of an inconvenience in the first place. Bill Ready, head of next generation commerce at PayPal, points out that near-field communication has been around for 10 years without catching on. His vision of the mobile payment future is more akin to an "e-commerce style transaction happening in the physical world," he says, citing the example of car-sharing service Uber, which works with PayPal to process riders' payments by way of a mobile phone app.

"Uber addressed a real pain point, in that hailing a taxi and payment for a taxi is cumbersome," he says. "We're focused on those types of things more than killing the card swipe."

Even amid the differing visions, most experts agree that the march toward the digitization of payment will continue.

"Someone is going to figure out how to make mobile payments easy and cheap and then we're talking a real shift in consumer behavior," says Gartner's Litan. □

Alliance Data to buy Conversant for \$2.3 billion

NEW YORK (AP) — Alliance Data said it plans to boost its digital marketing business by buying Conversant for about \$2.3 billion.

The deal is expected to close by the end of the year, the companies said Thursday.

Dallas-based Alliance Data manages credit cards and loyalty programs for retailers such as Lane Bryant, J. Crew and Buckle.

Conversant, which is based in Westlake Village, California, provides online advertising services to its clients. The company was formerly known as ValueClick.

Alliance Data said it will pay \$35 for each share of Conversant, a 31 percent premium from its closing price of \$26.71 Thursday. It will pay for Conversant with cash and stock.

Alliance Data expects the

combined company to add about 50 cents per share to its earnings during the first year, and 75 cents per share in the second year.

Shares of Conversant Inc. soared nearly 33 percent to \$35.47 after the market closed Thursday. Alliance Data shares rose more than 2 percent to \$258.50 in after-market trading. □



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'No Good Deed' defeats 'Guardians' at theaters

SANDY COHEN

**AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP)** — It

took a murderous Idris Elba and a pair of dolphin buddies to defeat "Guardians of the Galaxy" at movie theaters. The Sony thriller "No Good Deed," which stars Elba as an escaped convict and Taraji P. Henson as the innocent he terrorizes, opened on top of the box office with \$24.5 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. And Sony wasn't surprised.

"It's a movie that we really loved and felt that it was going to win," said Sony distribution chief Rory Bruer. "You have to give it to the cast in Idris and Taraji. Their chemistry together is fantastic." The film nearly doubled its reported budget in its first week of release, said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for

box-office tracker Rentrak.

"It's the first brand-new post summer release to really catch on," he said. The Warner Bros.' feel-good film "Dolphin Tale 2" debuted in second place with \$16.5 million. The family-friendly story stars Morgan Freeman and Ashley Judd reprising their roles from the 2011 original.

"Guardians" slipped to third place with \$8 million in ticket sales. The Marvel space adventure, which held the No. 1 spot for four weeks, is the top-grossing film of the year domestically, collecting more than \$300 million in North America and \$600 million worldwide.

Paramount's "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" finished fourth with \$4.8 million, followed by the Fox comedy "Let's Be Cops," which collected \$4.3 million.



This Jan. 4, 2014 file photo shows actor Idris Elba at the Palm Springs International Film Festival Awards Gala in Palm Springs, Calif.

Associated Press

Fox Searchlight's crime drama "The Drop," which stars Tom Hardy

and the late James Gandolfini, opened in sixth place with \$4.2 million

— an impressive showing given it only played in 809 theaters. □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also

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Owner Benjamin Petrocchi



Actress Abigail Spencer, actors Tye Sheridan, John Travolta, Christopher Plummer, and director Phillip Martin are photographed at the press conference for "The Forger" at the TIFF Bell Lightbox during the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival on Friday, Sept. 12, 2014, in Toronto.

Associated Press

People's Choice Award to "Imitation Game" at TIFF

TORONTO (AP) — A World War II code-breaker drama starring Benedict Cumberbatch has won the top prize at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Director Morten Tyldum's "The Imitation Game" claimed the coveted Grolsch People's Choice Award on Sunday. Cumberbatch plays World War II British code-breaker Alan Turing. The role is complicated because Cumberbatch not only must convey the mathematical brilliance of Turing, but the pressure he faced as a closeted gay man at a time when homosexuality was criminalized. The film also stars Oscar nominee Keira Knightley and Matthew Goode.

Three of the past six People's Choice Award winners have gone on to win the Oscar for best picture, including "The King's Speech," "Slumdog Millionaire" and last year's victor, "12 Years a Slave."

Sunday is the last day of the 11-day movie marathon.

Lamar says Swift's remarks help himself, hip-hop



Recording artist Kendrick Lamar performs at the Maxim Magazine Super Bowl Party in this Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014 file photo taken in New York.

Associated Press

JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Kendrick Lamar appreciated Taylor Swift for paying homage to his music in a recent interview.

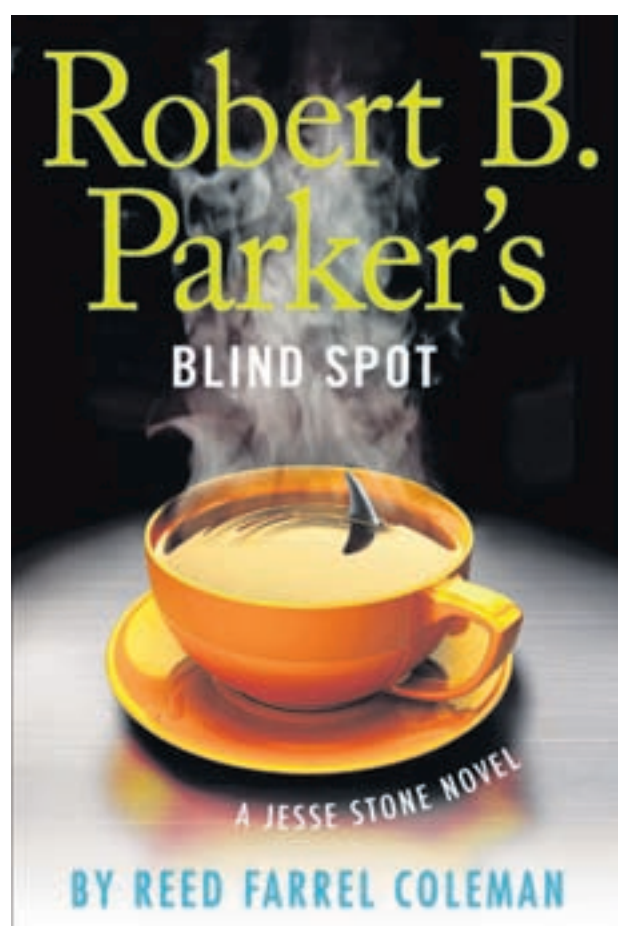
Lamar was grateful to hear about Swift knowing the words to his lyrics and putting her in a great mood. The rapper praised the country music star for speaking highly of his music, saying her admiring remarks show hip-hop

shouldn't be categorized for one listener.

"Some people always try to lock it down and categorize it for one particular listener," Lamar said at the fifth annual ONE Musicfest in Atlanta on Saturday. "But it moves all, even people from other genres." In a recent interview with Rolling Stone, Swift said listening to Lamar's music helps change her mood from feeling "victimized"

to "awesome." She said her "go-to" song is Lamar's "Backseat Freestyle," a record featured on his Grammy-nominated album, "Good Kid, M.A.A.D City." "I appreciate Taylor Swift for supporting not only my music but just the hip-hop culture," he said. "There's really no gap. It's music and it feels good." Lamar spoke backstage with The Associated Press after his 90-minute performance.

Review: Crime novel 'Blind Spot' is well plotted



BRUCE DESILVA

Associated Press

It's been years since Jesse Stone, police chief in the mythical town of Paradise, Massachusetts, had his pro baseball career shattered in a collision at second base. So it is with considerable reluctance that he decides to attend a reunion of his old minor league team.

However, a murder at the home of a wealthy Paradise family forces him to rush back to Paradise. There, he learns that a former teammate might have been involved in the crime.

That is the premise of "Robert B. Parker's Blind Spot," a well-plotted crime novel that's a

worthy successor to the late Parker's body of work.

When Parker died in 2010, fans assumed that Stone and Parker's other memorable series characters, a Boston private eye named Spenser and a pair of Western lawmen named Hitch and Cole, had perished with him. But Parker's publisher, G.P. Putnam's Sons, decided to keep the money train on the tracks.

Ace Atkins, the veteran crime novelist selected to continue the Spenser series, has responded with three fine novels written in a style that closely resembles Parker's. But until now, Parker's other characters have suffered under new authorship.

Robert Knott's two Hitch and Cole novels have not been well reviewed. And three Jesse Stone novels by Michael Brandman suffered from a weak

writing style.

Now, the publisher has put Jesse Stone in good hands, replacing Brandman with Reed Farrel Coleman, a three-time Edgar Award finalist.

Unlike Atkins, Coleman hasn't attempted to mimic Parker. Instead, Coleman is continuing the Stone saga in his own crisp prose style. For one thing, Coleman says, he doubts that he could reproduce Parker's distinctive voice.

For another, Spenser is the late author's most iconic character; Parker wrote only nine Stone novels. That, Coleman says, gives him the freedom to continue the series in his own style — and room to explore fresh aspects of the character. Given the excellent prose and plotting of "Blind Spot," Jesse Stone fans will be eager to discover where Coleman takes this compelling series next.

This book cover image released by G.P. Putnam's Sons shows "Blind Spot," by Robert B. Parker.
Associated Press

A Man With a Plan



GAIL COLLINS
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It's a tough time to be a concerned citizen. The truth of the matter is, the job has always been messy. But way worse when the focus is on international affairs.

We gathered around our TVs and computers and smartphones Wednesday night to hear President Barack Obama explain his plan for combating the Islamic State group, even though we have pretty much lost faith in plans when it comes to U.S. involvement in the Middle East.

Actually, we were just waiting to see how he sounded. So we could just say something like "he appeared to believe he's on the right track."

When it comes to anything relating to Iraq and Syria, we're very good at imagining a downside. We were sickened by the videos of the beheadings of two U.S. journalists. We want revenge. On the other hand, the Islamic State did it for the notoriety. Were we just rewarding them by giving them center stage in a presidential address?

The president wants to arm Syrian rebels. But some of the fighters in the Islamic State were Syrian rebels. Obviously, the administration feels its rebels are not going to become anti-Western terrorists. But the anti-Western terrorists in the Islamic State are waving around a ton of our weaponry that they took from the Iraqis. Just saying.

We don't want boots on the ground. The idea of airstrikes sound much safer. Unless you happen to be an innocent civilian in the vicinity. Can we step up the bombing on both sides of the border without killing Iraqi and Syrian civilians? And are we setting our sights too low if we say we'd buy into any plan that would just keep terrorists out of the homeland and refrain from making things worse?

During the run-up to the speech, Republicans were irate about the president's failure to act sooner, explain his plan faster and, in general, be tougher. For once, foreign policy was becoming a major congressional-elections talking point.

"President Obama's chronic passivity has helped the jihadists," John Cornyn of Texas, the second-ranking Senate Republican, said in a floor speech this week. Cornyn slammed the administration's "don't do stupid

stuff" mantra, claiming Obama "doesn't seem to fully grasp the magnitude of the threats and challenges that America is now dealing with."

Cornyn mixed up Iranians and Iraqis a few times, but concerned citizens understand that these things get complicated. More to the point, not doing something stupid is actually a super foreign policy goal. Look back on our recent history of messing with the Middle East, and what do you see? Stupid things we wish we'd never done. Even Scott Brown, the Republican Senate candidate in New Hampshire, has taken off after Obama's foreign policy: He calls it a "failure" in a new Web ad. Brown himself does not appear in the spot, perhaps hoping to avoid conjuring up visions of what U.S. foreign policy would look like if run by a man who has been known to deal with far less difficult topics by responding: "'Cause, you know, whatever."

In his speech, the president was making a comeback from weeks in which he was attacked for everything from playing golf on his vacation to saying "we don't have a strategy yet" on the Islamic State surge in Syria. On that, the critics have a point. You're not supposed to say you don't have a strategy. Even when everything on the ground has shifted and you need to consult your allies, get the Iraqi government to reorganize and collect new intelligence. You still don't say "no strategy." You say "I'll discuss strategy after I brief the congressional leaders." And then fail to invite them.

The tone of alarm in Washington and on the campaign trail has been hyper-shrill. Concerned citizens are easily frightened on the subject of terrorism, but they're also worried about getting carried away. Denouncing the president's failure to take on the Islamic State faster, Rep. Michele Bachmann told The Huffington Post: "We haven't seen anything like this since Hitler and the blitzkrieg in World War II." Well, Michele Bachmann. She does serve on the House Intelligence Committee, and we are not going to call up that old canard about the House Intelligence Committee being a contradiction in terms. This is incredibly serious stuff, and we're focused on looking for answers.

That's why it's almost comforting to have Dick Cheney around, so we can know what to avoid. This week, in a Washington speech, the former vice president said Obama has to "understand we are at war, and that we must do what it takes, for as long as it takes, to win," and spend way more money on defense. Which means that:

A) While we have to fight the Islamic State surge, it's going to be a struggle more complicated than war.

B) The president should put time-tables on everything.

C) The defense budget needs to go down.

Remember that no matter what else happens, Dick Cheney will never steer us right. □



Critique From an Obama Fan



NICHOLAS KRISTOF
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I'm probably one of the few Americans left with some sympathy for President Barack Obama's foreign policy, and even I have to admit that his Syria policy has been a mess.

His "red line" about chemical weapons turned out to be more like a penciled suggestion. His rejection of the proposal by Hillary Rodham Clinton and David Petraeus to arm moderate Syrian factions tragically empowered both the Islamic State group and President Bashar Assad of Syria. Dismissing the Islamic State as a "JV team," as Obama did in January, was silly - compounded by the White House's comforted attempts to deny that he had said that. Obama's ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford, resigned this year because he found our government's policy impossible to defend.

The tragedy in Syria isn't Obama's fault, but that of Syrians; still, the president has been painfully passive toward what has unfolded: the deaths of nearly 200,000 Syrians, the destabilization of neighboring countries by 3 million refugees, the near collapse of Iraq, the beheading of two U.S. journalists, mass atrocities against Yazidi and Christian religious minorities and growing risks of Islamic State terrorism against

U.S. and European targets.

And, yes, that's the judgment of an Obama fan.

So it's just as well that the president is trying for a reset - oops, wrong word - let's just say "a new strategy" in Syria.

"America will lead a broad coalition to roll back this terrorist threat," Obama declared in his speech Wednesday night. He described it as a "counterterrorism campaign" that would "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State.

There's some inconsistency there. Counterterrorism is the right prism through which to approach this, rather than all-out war, but it's unlikely to destroy the Islamic State any more than it did the Taliban or militancy in Yemen.

Indeed, the president, in his speech, said that his strategy in Syria "is one that we have successfully pursued in Yemen and Somalia for years." That's a plausible comparison, but Obama may be the only person in the world who would cite conflict-torn Yemen and Somalia as triumphs. Unfortunately, there are more problems than solutions in international relations, and calls for more aggressive action by some Republican critics could make things worse. Dick Cheney has compiled an almost perfect record of being wrong on foreign affairs, so, on Wednesday, when he called for the United States to be more aggressive and get "back on offense," we should all insist upon caution.

My take is that Obama is right to expand military action against the Islamic State into Syria if it's done prudently with modest goals of containing and degrading a terror group. The Islamic State is a proper target, having butchered Americans, dismembered Iraq and attempted genocide against minorities like the Yazidis.

A 17-year-old Yazidi girl told the Italian newspaper La Repubblica in a phone call that she was being kept by the Islamic State as a sex slave along with many oth-

ers. The newspaper got her cell-phone number from her parents, who are in a refugee camp.

"They treat us as if we are their slaves," the newspaper quoted the girl as saying. "The men hit us and threaten us when we try to resist. Often I wish that they would beat me so severely that I would die."

The Islamic State also could pose a terror threat within the United States. At least 100 and perhaps many more Americans have traveled to Syria to join jihadi groups, and some could return to carry out attacks.

So striking the Islamic State in Syria makes sense, but we also have to recognize that airstrikes will be of limited benefit and carry real risks as well. "We're going to war because we've been spooked," notes Joshua Landis, a Syria specialist at University of Oklahoma. "But if we do it wrong, we could ensure that the violence spreads." One danger is that if our bombs kill innocents, the Islamic State would use its video-making and social media skills to galvanize the Sunni Islam world, saying the American "infidels" who are slaughtering Sunni children must be punished. That's why it's crucial to have Sunni partners, including United Arab Emirates, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. We also need a partner on the ground to take advantage of airstrikes and seize back territory. That means moderate Syrian rebels, but there are many fewer of them now than there were two years ago. The middle has been vanishing.

Bolstering the Syrian opposition is still worth trying, and a senior administration official says that the White House will try to expand support. But there's a danger that more arms will lead not to the destruction of the Islamic State but to the creation of another Somalia.

So let's move ahead with eyes wide open. We've seen the perils of Obama's inaction, and let's now avoid the perils of excessive action. □

After a Hall of Fame Induction; Caddie 'Stevie' Williams Is Intent on Laying It Up

KAREN CROUSE

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ATLANTA - The newest member of the Caddie Hall of Fame is Steve Williams, or as his presenter at last week's ceremony, Steve Sands of the Golf Channel, called him, Stevie.

Settling in at the lectern for his speech, Williams gave Sands the same look he would give a golfer who questioned his yardages. "It's Steve," Williams said to the assembled crowd at the Cherry Hills Country Club outside Denver. "Stevie's what Tiger used to call me, so that's what everybody calls me. I hate that name."

Williams was Tiger Woods' caddie for 13 years and 13 of his major titles. Their divorce, initiated by Woods, was the rare instance when Williams was caught unaware in a career that is winding down after 36 years.

Sometime after Sunday's final round of the Tour Championship, Williams, 50, will sit down with Adam Scott, whom he has guided to two of golf's highest peaks, the 2013 Masters championship and the world No. 1 ranking, and talk about a downshift in his schedule. His plan is to skip some less prestigious early events and work from March through September only, so he can spend more time in his native New Zealand with his wife, Kirsty, and 8-year-old son, Jett.

"I'm definitely not going to caddie full time," Williams said in an interview last week. "I've 100 percent made my mind up on that. At some point in time, there are more important things."

Scott, who lost his top ranking recently to Rory McIlroy, has made 17 starts worldwide this calendar year. Asked about Williams' intentions, Scott said: "We've talked about it and he'll caddie every tournament on the PGA Tour for me. I don't know if that's part time."

Williams set a retirement date once before. "In 1999," he said, "I had al-

ready decided 2000 was going to be my last year." Then he heard from Woods, who was on the market for a caddie after jettisoning Mike Cowan. Williams put retirement in his back pocket and forgot about it until after Scott won the Masters. Within months, Williams told Scott he wanted to scale back his schedule. Recent events have made him more resolute about his decision. Williams was shaken by the recent sud-

den death of Angela Bennett shortly after her caddie husband, Lance, arrived in Boston for the second FedEx Cup playoff event.

Williams was hired by Greg Norman, the first of his four great partnerships. After Norman let him go, he partnered with Raymond Floyd from 1989 to 1999 before teaming with

arranged for him to caddie for the Australian star Peter Thomson in the New Zealand Open. Thomson finished third. "From that week on," Williams said, "I knew I wanted to be a professional caddie."



Steve Williams, the latest inductee in the Caddie Hall of Fame, at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta. Williams, who now caddies for Adam Scott after parting ways with Tiger Woods, says he intends to spend more time with his wife and son at home in New Zealand. (Kevin Liles/The New York Times)

den death of Angela Bennett shortly after her caddie husband, Lance, arrived in Boston for the second FedEx Cup playoff event.

The next week, at the Hall of Fame ceremony on the eve of the BMW Championship outside Denver, Williams opened his induction speech by asking for a moment of silence for Bennett and his family.

"Look, it's a tragic story," Williams said, "and it just reaffirms how life can change in an instant."

Williams' life changed when he was 13 and his father, a fine amateur golfer,

Woods to become golf's most famous sidekick.

Williams has a forthrightness that gives his personality a saw-toothed edge. During his time with Woods, he gained a reputation for cutting down to size spectators and photographers whose careless actions threatened the tranquility of the golfers' workplace. He once chucked a photographer's camera into a water hazard at a tournament after the shutter clicked during Woods' swing. Williams, as if reprising his childhood role as an aggressive forward in rugby, became the enforcer.

"Look, I guess to be fair," Williams said, "when Tiger's playing, there are a lot more people inside the ropes, outside the ropes; there's a lot more distractions. As much as anything, I wanted to try to make the other players in the group feel like they're playing under the same conditions as everyone else in the field." His split with Woods, Williams said, caught him by surprise. Since then, they have exchanged pleas-

antries on the golf course, but that has been the extent of their communication, Williams said.

"It's disappointing," he said. "I caddied for the guy for 13 years, put my heart and soul into it, and there's been no correspondence at all."

It is weird to Williams' wife to consider that the very qualities that endeared him to her - his loyalty and, as she described it in an email, "dedication in all he does right to the end" - could make him come across in public as aloof or mean.

"He is a loyal and trustwor-

thy man," said Kirsty, who had no trouble summoning her husband's least endearing quality. "He can't relax," she said. "He's always on the move doing something. It's really frustrating having a husband that will never sit still."

She added: "He has promised to get better at relaxing when he retires. I think pigs might fly before that happens, though."

In addition to being one of the most successful cad-

dies, Williams is a champion race car driver in New Zealand. He competes in super saloon and saloon cars, known as late model in North America. When he steps from behind the golf bag and into the car, Williams acknowledges he is merely trading one competitive addiction for another. "To be fair, I wish I didn't race," Williams said. "It's so addictive, it takes up so much time and energy and it's so much work building and maintaining race cars. The good thing about it as opposed to out here is my wife and son are in the pits with me." □